

Legal threats follow TV auction

Thames, TV-am lose licences in bidding battle

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THREE of the four television companies that lost their broadcasting franchises yesterday after a controversial blind-bid auction are considering challenging the Independent Television Commission in the courts.

Thames, the biggest supplier of peak-time programmes to the ITV network, and TV-am, the most profitable television company in the world, will go off the air in 1993 after losing their licences to higher bidders. TVS, which serves the South, and the West's TSW also lost their franchises in spite of putting in bigger tenders than their rivals.

Thames, TVS and TSW are now contemplating seeking a judicial review of the selection process and they may be joined by other unsuccessful bidders, including Richard Branson and Phil Redmond. Mr Branson was a three-time loser in the auction and Mr Redmond's North West Television failed to out Granada, even though it offered nearly four times as much.

But the commission said

losers would have to prove that the ITC had acted beyond its statutory powers and even then, the courts would not have the power to overturn the decisions. Asked if he thought the losers would take legal action, George Russell, the commission chairman, said: "I don't think they should or will because they knew the rules when they entered."

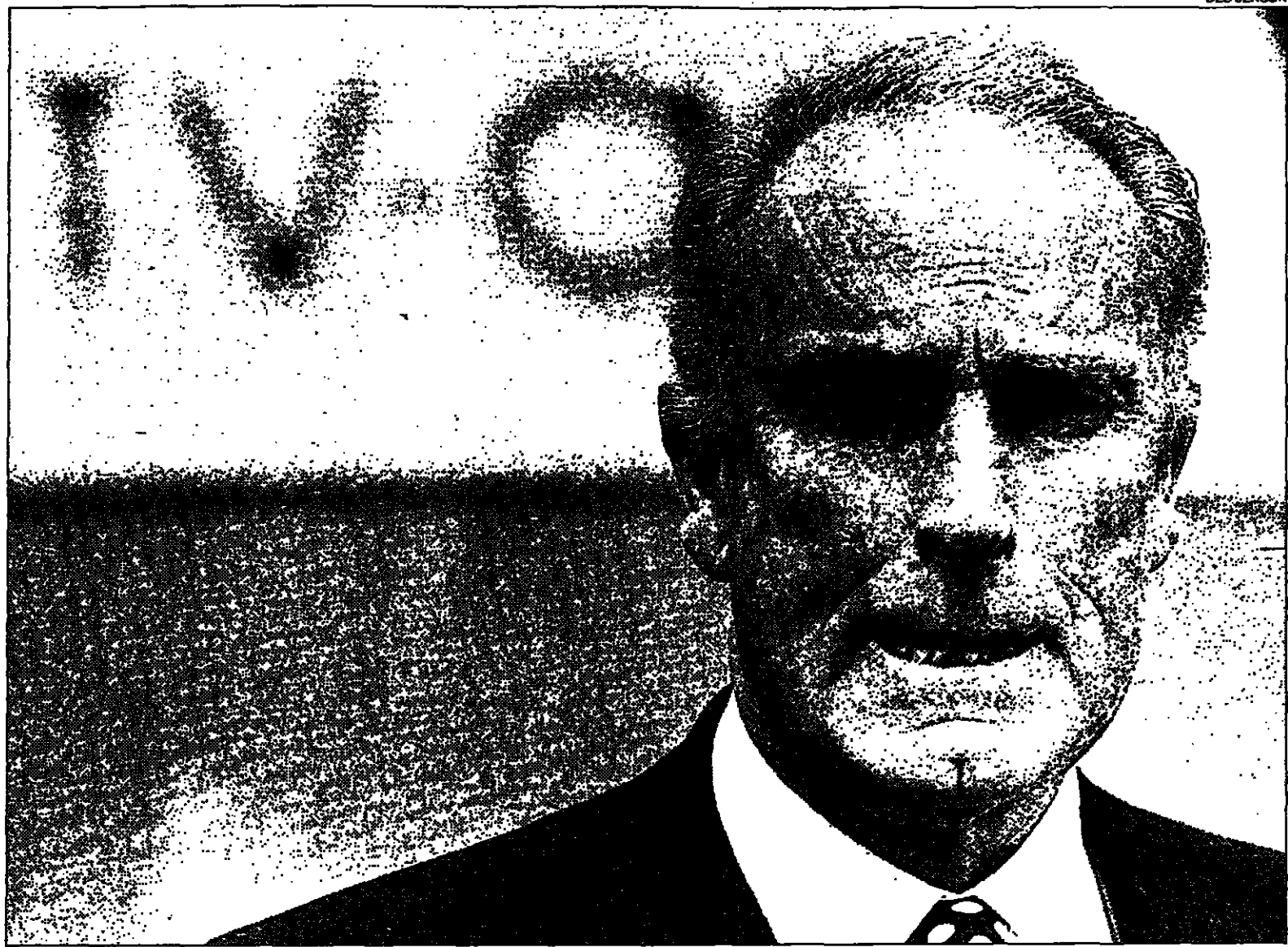
Bruce Gynell, the TV-am chairman, said he would not pursue the matter in the courts but he described the award of the morning franchise to Sunrise Television a travesty. "I predict that Sunrise will be bankrupt by 1994," he said. "I do not believe that it can be a profitable company with a bid of £34.6 million." TV-am, whose 17 million viewers represent 70 per cent of the breakfast audience, offered £14 million. The company now hopes to sell its morning programme to Channel 4.

Thames, which lost the London weekday franchise to Carlton Television, will shed a thousand jobs and turn itself into a production company, so that shows such as *Minder*, *The Bill* and *This Is Your Life* will survive. TVS and TSW, rejected because the commission thought their bids were too high for them to be able to sustain quality and profitability, are likely to be wound up.

Shares in three successful incumbent companies also fell because of fears that they may have overstretched themselves with their bids, but Thames and TV-am, which are thought to have good futures as independents, remained fairly stable.

The TVS franchise will be taken over by Meridian Broadcasting, and TSW will be replaced by Westcountry Television. Meridian and Carlton, which secured the London licence with a £43.2 million bid, will break new ground by commissioning all programmes, apart from local news, from independent producers.

Carlton's bid included proposals for a night game show and a new current affairs programme to replace *This Week* while Meridian offered comedy from Michael Palin, Rowan Atkinson and Tracey Ullman. But none of the winners can guarantee that the programmes promised in their applications will be shown on



Off camera: Bruce Gynell, chairman of TV-am, grimacing outside his Camden headquarters yesterday after losing the breakfast-time franchise

the national network. The final shape of the Channel 3 of the future will be determined by the network controller to be appointed in 1993. He or she will decide which of the offerings put forward by the 16 regional companies and some 800 independents should appear on the screen.

Only half of the 16 licences went to companies that put in the highest cash bid - the other top bidders failed the "quality test" - and much of the criticism of the auction

process centred on the huge differences in the winning bids. Central and Scottish, unopposed, offered only £2,000 for their licences and Channel paid £1,000. By contrast, Yorkshire bid £37.7 million and Meridian £36.5 million.

Granada retained its licence with a bid of £9 million against North West's £35 million bid. David Plowright, the Granada chairman, said: "The ITC has exercised its discretionary judgment in favour of quality in a courageous way. They have given programmes a chance."

George Russell said that had the commission simply awarded each franchise to the highest bidder, irrespective of quality, the Treasury would have gained £200 million for each of the 20 years of the franchise. Last-minute changes to the Broadcasting Act meant the Treasury would receive £40 million more than it does now.

But Richard Dunn, chief Continued on page 24, col 6

Winners and losers, pages 4-5
Blind date, page 18
Diary, page 18
Leading article, page 19
Shares fall, page 25

Honecker athletes forced to use drugs

East Germany built its formidable athletics team on the back of state-supplied steroids, Nigel Hawkes reports

Secret East German documents show that the doping of athletes with steroids to improve their performance was a full-scale, state-sponsored scientific plan under Erich Honecker's regime costing millions of marks and reaching all the way to the country's top scientific body, the Academy of Sciences.

There was no question of athletes getting their drugs slipped to them in the car park, as has happened in the West. The entire operation was conducted with teutonic efficiency and helped produce the remarkable dominance of East German athletes, especially in women's events, during the 1980s. Some women discus-throwers and shot-putters were on double the steroid dose of Ben Johnson, the disgraced Canadian sprinter.

Theses and papers uncovered by a molecular biologist from West Germany, Werner Franke, have revealed that girls as young as 13 or 14 were given steroids under a carefully controlled programme, State Plan 14.25, to turn them into super-athletes. Their performance was monitored and improvements noted, in scientific papers that were then declared national secrets. In some cases the doping went on even when liver damage and other side-effects had been noted.

Dr Franke was encouraged Continued on page 24, col 2

23 dead in worst US mass killing

FROM AGENCIES IN KILLEEN, TEXAS

A MAN armed with an automatic weapon drove his lorry into a popular central Texas cafeteria and opened fire on the lunch-time crowd, killing up to 22 people and wounding at least 15 others, television and radio reports said yesterday.

After the shooting rampage, the gunman went into a toilet at Luby's cafeteria and killed himself, CBS radio reported. The shooting went on for 20 or 30 minutes, one witness told Cable News Network. Police said that 22 people, including the gunman, were dead, which would make the shooting the worst mass killing in American history.

One witness told CBS that the man fired an automatic weapon "as fast as he could pull the trigger". Another report said that he sat in the lorry and fired after ramming the vehicle through the window of the cafeteria about 1pm (7pm London time).

Robert Stubblefield, a Bell County official, said 23 people were dead, including the unidentified gunman. Another local official, Mike Cox, said that in addition up to 15 people were wounded. A police department worker said as many ambulances as possible had been called to the scene of the mass killing.

"The guy jumped out of the truck and said, 'This is what Bell County has done to me!'" said Sheldon Smith, a porter at the cafeteria. "As he opened fire, the guy that he ran over with the truck was trying to get up and he shot him."

"Then he pointed toward the line where the service was and he started shooting down the line."

A dispatcher at the Killeen police department, who refused to give her name, said "we called for several ambulances, as many as we can

Tortured SAS men had nails torn out by Iraqis

By DAVID WATTS
DIPLOMATIC
CORRESPONDENT

SAS commandos captured by the Iraqis during secret missions in search of Scud missiles during the Gulf war had their finger nails pulled out as part of a grim saga of torture.

The SAS men were also burned by their Iraqi torturers because of the sensitivity of their mission. The revelations are the first to give details of the treatment of the army's crack troops, who played a vital role in debilitating the Iraqi war machine.

The torture of the men is revealed by two RAF men, Flight Lieutenant David Waddington, aged 24, and Flight Lieutenant Robbie Stewart, aged 44, whose Tornado was shot down during a raid on an Iraqi airfield. They tell their stories in a new book, *Thunder and Lightning - The RAF in the Gulf*, by Charles Allen.

The airmen ejected from their jet at 600mph at a height of under 200ft. Flight Lieutenant Stewart suffered a broken shoulder and crushed vertebrae and broke his leg in three places. He says Iraqi Baath party police picked him up. He was blindfolded and taken to an interrogation bunker where he was continuously hit across the legs with "a big stick with some sort of ball at the end of it. He started hitting me with this and said 'he'd break my other leg'."

Flight Lieutenant Waddington says guards stopped medical staff giving him an anaesthetic as they put his dislocated arm back in place. The two men were taken to a Baghdad prison where their interrogation intensified. He said he was blindfolded throughout and hit on the head, back and legs every time he refused to answer questions. "Sometimes they'd beat me to the stage where I'd go unconscious. Then I'd come round and they'd ask me another question and beat me up again," he said.

But there were lighter moments. One pilot landed at Sam after a mission and demanded a copy of *The Times*. Other papers were available but he said: "Well, I normally read *The Times*. Why can't you get me a copy?" Here we were with half a million Iraqis up on the border about 100 miles away and he was worried about not getting his copy of *The Times*.

TODAY IN THE TIMES

NOBEL WINNERS



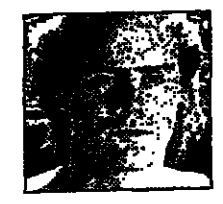
Pierre-Gilles de Gennes, of France, has won the Nobel Prize for Physics for his work in the fields of liquid crystals, while Richard Ernst, of Switzerland, has won the chemistry prize for research into spectroscopy. Nigel Hawkes assesses their achievements Page 14

YOU'VE REVIVED



Why has Kingsley Amis resurrected a 17-year-old Cockney lad from an old play to star in his latest novel? Joseph Connolly reviews the latest addition to the teenage market Page 16

KING'S FAVOURITE



Steven Waddington as Edward II, whose fondness for an upstairs leads to civil war and brutal murder in Derek Jarman's new film. Page 17

INSIDE	
Arts	17,22
Births, marriages, deaths	20,21
Books	13,21,33
Classified	34,35
Court & social	20
Crosswords	21,24
Focus	34,35
Health	15
Law Report	36
Leading articles	19
Letters	38
Science and Technology	14

12 pages of top jobs in today's appointments section, circulated in Britain



99 NHS opt-outs approved

By JILL SHERMAN AND NICHOLAS WOOD

WILLIAM Waldegrave, the health secretary, yesterday swept aside calls to slow down the pace of reforms in the National Health Service by approving 99 of the 110 applications from hospitals and other units to become trusts next April.

He also approved in principle bids from four leading London teaching hospitals, St Thomas's, St Bartholomew's, St Mary's and King's, but has delayed their start until 1993 pending the enquiry into London's health services announced last week. The four hospitals will be allowed to keep their shadow trust teams and Mr Waldegrave made it clear they would not have to

reapply for trust status, leading to accusations that he had prejudged the London commission. However, he indicated that, in the wake of the enquiry, the hospitals' services might be provided "in a different shape".

Mr Waldegrave also announced that he had agreed that 153 more hospitals and health units could apply for trust status for 1993. He said that nearly a third of all hospital and community units will have opted out of health authority control by next April, and that if all the applications next year are approved this would rise to 50 per cent by 1993. About 30 per cent of the 840,000 staff in

the health service and 28,000 of its beds will be in trust hospitals by next April.

Robin Cook, Labour's chief health spokesman, claimed amid rowdy scenes in the Commons that Mr Waldegrave was flying in the face of public and professional opinion by approving more opt-outs. However, Mr Cook avoided directly repeating Neil Kinnock's jibe the day before that the Conservatives were engaged in privatising the health service. Tory MPs interpreted Mr Cook's remarks as a tactical retreat from the most emotive charge

Continued on page 24, col 5

Opt-out list, page 2

Late commuters fight BR over docked pay

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

THE hard-pressed British commuter is fighting back. In the week in which the railways announced fare increases far in excess of the rate of inflation, Barry Unwin and six other commuters backed by the Consumers' Association are taking legal action against BR for failing to get them to work on time.

Summonses have been issued in the county courts, but the actions will be jointly adjudicated, probably next summer, in the High Court because of their public importance. The test case will oblige aggrieved passengers to climb a legal mountain because of BR's copper-bottomed conditions of carriage that absolve it of liability for late trains. The association, however, is determined to launch a challenge under the 1977 Unfair Contract Terms Act.

Mr Unwin, aged 43, a service engineer

who uses the Southend to London-Fenchurch Street line, has had his wages docked by £170 in the past 12 months for being late for work. In Southend, he catches the 7.06am train that should complete the 40-mile journey in time for him to clock-on by 8.30am. "But I'm always getting in late and I'm sick of it," he said. "I don't blame my employers for docking my money, but why should BR get away with it?"

Mr Unwin, who earns £16,000 a year and paid £1,716 for his annual rail ticket, has been docked £8.32 twice in the past two weeks. Points and signals failure were the reasons given on dockets handed out by station staff for commuters to submit to their employers.

Jane Bell, a lawyer at the Consumers' Association, said: "Our view is that the conditions of carriage amount to a blanket let-out, but that is its critical

weakness. We don't think the conditions will stand up when challenged."

Roger Freeman, the transport minister, has accepted that service on the line, used daily by 72,000 passengers, is "wholly unacceptable". Indeed, on Tuesday, BR announced a fare increase of only 5 per cent for passengers using that line, below increases elsewhere.

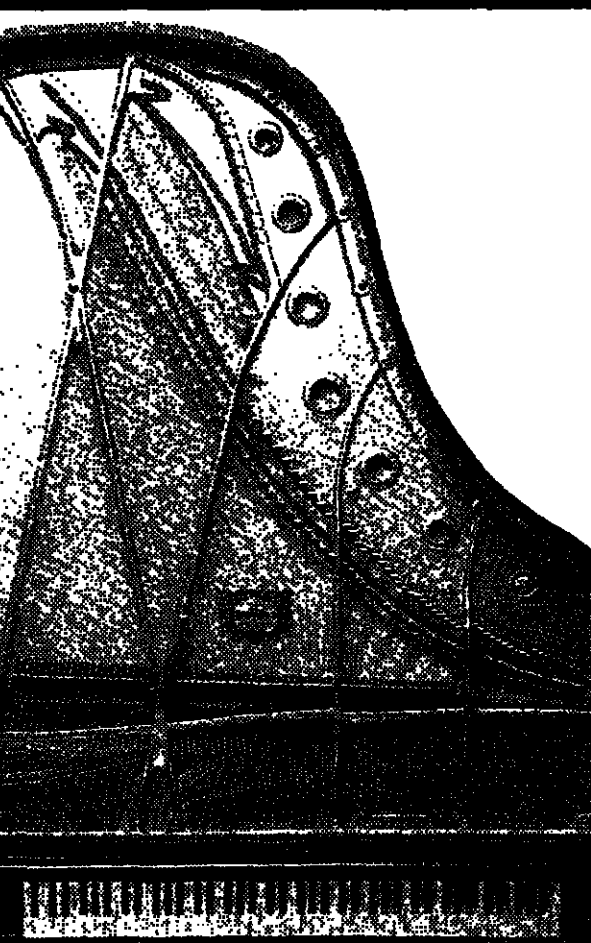
Mr Unwin's MP, Sir Teddy Taylor, has spoken to the prime minister four times about the line. He has been promised a decision by the end of the year on a £300 million investment programme. Sir Teddy said: "Some of the signalling is older than me, and I am 54. Before they go on spending more money on this stupid Channel tunnel link, they should do something about the Fenchurch Street line. It is deplorable."

British Rail denied liability, but otherwise declined comment.



Unwin blames BR for loss of salary

The Piano Maker's Art



To a Yamaha craftsman, the beauty of a piano is much more than skin deep. That's why, in our dedication to building the world's finest instruments, nothing is too much trouble.

And while other makers may be happy to leave certain elements of tone, touch and durability to chance, Yamaha is not.

So each one of the thousands of parts that goes into building a Yamaha piano, we make ourselves. From a bridge pin on our smallest upright to the large cast iron frame of a concert grand.

Even the digital circuitry in Disklaviers (pianos that record and replay your performance) is a unique product of Yamaha expertise.

The Yamaha Heritage - a century of craftsmanship and technology - wouldn't have it any other way.

Why should you?

YAMAHA
THE SPIRIT OF MUSIC

Yamaha Acoustic Music, UK Ltd (Piano Division) Sharnbrook, Northants NN1 1JF

Scandal-troubled Haughey goes on attack in confidence debate



Haughey: enquiries will clear his administration

CHARLES Haughey, the apparently indomitable Irish prime minister, yesterday fought back against his many enemies who are trying to unseat him over financial scandals that have rocked his two-year-old government.

Opening a three-day confidence debate at the start of a new Dáil term in Dublin, Mr Haughey, sounding breathless but defiant, rounded on opposition leaders who, he said, had conducted campaigns of vilification and character assassination against him.

Mr Haughey said that although none of the recent scandals in semi-state companies had any-

thing to do with the government itself, opposition leaders were trying to smear him through accusations of guilt by association.

"I have already made clear, and I repeat here again categorically, that no person or company ever received any favourable treatment or consideration in their dealings with government because of personal friendships or associations," Mr Haughey said. "This is a government of absolute integrity," he added. "I reject totally any allegations to the contrary and when all the investigations have been completed, it will be established that there was no govern-

ment or ministerial involvement of any kind in any of the transactions or events being investigated."

Mr Haughey conceded that the financial scandals — some involving close friends or associates — at Irish Sugar, Telecom Eirann and Celtic Helicopters were deeply disturbing and detrimental to the Irish republic's image abroad.

However, he said that exploitation of them by his opponents had caused near-hysteria in business and professional life. "There now exists an unhealthy aura of suspicion and distrust bordering on paranoia," he told the Dáil.

The debate, opening what observers predict will be a particularly turbulent autumn term, comes against continued speculation about Mr Haughey's future as leader of Fianna Fáil, and the

failure of his party to agree its mid-term review of its programme for government with its junior coalition partners, the Progressive Democrats.

During procedural wrangling, Dick Spring, the Labour party leader, said that it was a farce for the House to open a confidence debate when the coalition had not even published its programme.

Although it still looks unlikely that the Progressive Democrats would risk an election over its key demand for tax reform, party managers have threatened to vote against the government if the review is not completed to their

satisfaction before the confidence vote is taken tomorrow.

In his opening speech, John Bruton, the Fine Gael leader, continued his highly personalised onslaught on Mr Haughey, accusing him of overseeing a government lacking strategy and accountability, which helped to create a climate for corruption. He likened Mr Haughey, whose political obituary has been over-hastily published several times in the past decade, to an old Chinese leader holding on to office in a desperate self-delusion. "This government is rotten to the core," Mr Bruton said, "and it should go."

Miners' jobs go as total out of work nears 2.5m

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BRITISH Coal announced yesterday that 1,300 miners' jobs were to go, as a new survey suggested that the rate of job losses in manufacturing was increasing sharply.

The moves come as the government reads itself to-day for a further rise in unemployment. Economic forecasters are suggesting that up to another 60,000 will be added to the number out of work, bringing seasonally adjusted unemployment up to just under 2.5 million.

British Coal said it would close the loss-making Coventry colliery after the pit failed to meet a production target of 26,500 tonnes set in August. It said that the pit, at Keresley, which has lost £42 million over the past five years, including £5.75 million so far in the current financial year, had not met that target. Miners' unions have three weeks to decide whether to

appeal against the closure. One option being talked of for the pit, which was opened in 1912, is the idea of offering it for sale as a stand-alone unit. British Coal said it would maintain the pit shafts.

A new survey today from the Amalgamated Engineering Union says that job losses are accelerating in manufacturing industry, with 32,271 announced job losses over the two months to yesterday, compared to 32,518 over the four months covered in its previous survey.

The survey, which the union claims is the most comprehensive of its kind, shows that the largest number of jobs lost in a specific region over the past two months was in the West Midlands, which saw the loss of 4,911 jobs, or 15 per cent of the total. The North-West, North Wales, the East Midlands, East Anglia, London and the South-East have also suffered badly.

Bill Jordan, the union president, says the survey identifies real people and real damage to the economy. "As opposed to the politicians' false claims of confidence and an upswing in the economy," he says. "We do not want to be pessimistic but the real truth is there is actually an alarming acceleration of job losses in manufacturing industry."

The independent Employment Institute says today that the government's employment action temporary work scheme, launched last week to help the long-term unemployed, is "little more than a pre-election cosmetic exercise". The institute says that the programme offers too little too late, and that it is an inadequate response to rising unemployment.

Pay-out scheme illegal

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

LOCAL authorities were warned to expect industrial action yesterday after the High Court ruled that councils were not entitled to offer special redundancy terms in order to shed surplus staff.

In a test case, Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Tudor Evans ruled that, unlike private companies, councils had no power to offer enhanced redundancy terms to staff who volunteered to give up their jobs.

They declared illegal a scheme set up by North Tyneside Council under which 650 staff were offered severance terms up to three and a half times higher than the statutory minimum.

The judges said that, apart from small gratuities and pension enhancements, councils had no power to pay more than the statutory minimum.

The ruling will affect more than 100 councils and poll tax payers are expected to bear most of the cost of the payments declared illegal.

Nalge, the local government officers' union, said the union would fight compulsory redundancies.



In touch with nature: schoolchildren, wearing flower pots as blindfolds, trying to identify a tree by its smell and touch during a tree activity day at Wakehurst Place, near Ardingly, West Sussex. The test was one of seven activities aimed at allowing the children to develop their creative, constructive and exploratory abilities

Sprouting elms retain forebears' fatal infection

By MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

ELMS are returning to fields and hedgerows two decades after Dutch elm disease devastated one of the chief glories of the English landscape. But many of the fledgling growths already harbour the fatal infection that killed the immortal trees hymned by Tennyson.

Dense clumps of young elms up to 30 ft high have sprung up from the trees that died, according to John Gibbs, a senior Forestry Commission pathologist. New stems can be found growing from the root systems of old trees up to 60 ft from the original stump.

"Flare-ups of Dutch elm disease have become common throughout southern England over the past 12 months. The proportion of trees affected so far is small but there is obviously a danger of the disease spreading and farmers

and landowners would be well advised to fell and burn diseased trees," he said.

More than 25 million elms, including 90 per cent of those in southern England, were destroyed in the Seventies by a virulent new strain of Dutch elm disease imported into Britain in logs of Canadian rock elm, a timber widely used in small boat construction.

The fungus that causes the disease survived in the roots of felled or dead trees along with small numbers of beetles that carry fungal spores from tree to tree. Only in the past year or so have the new elms reached a size capable of supporting big populations of the insects, which feed on healthy trees and breed in dead ones. Early autumn is the

best time for spotting signs of the disease, which include premature browning of the leaves and "die-back" of the tree crowns.

Gerry Andrews, Somerset county council's forestry officer, says a national campaign must be launched without delay to fell and burn every infected tree. "The longer we leave it, the worse the situa-

tion will get. The build-up in the beetle population is the main problem. The beetles multiply by a factor of ten each time there is a brood. So a hundred beetles today will become a million in five years' time."

Forestry Commission officials agree that cutting down diseased trees is sensible, particularly in isolated woodland, less likely to be re-infected by neighbouring stands, but doubt that a national disease control programme would be feasible.

Dr Gibbs said there was no chemical treatment that made sense. A more promising approach was biological control, by using a virus that attacked the fungus and reduced its infectivity. Breeding disease-resistant elms was another line of attack. But Dr Gibbs said: "It has proved difficult to produce trees with the shape and growth qualities that would make them attractive for large-scale planting."

Woodland planting gathers pace

NEW woodlands are being established at an unprecedented rate in England, Penny Evans, assistant secretary of the Council for the Protection of Rural England, said yesterday (John Young writes).

She told a conference of the British Association of Nature Conservationists in Cannock, Staffordshire, that the rate of planting demonstrated the effectiveness of the Farm Woodland Scheme, run by the

Forestry Commission and the agriculture departments of England, Scotland and Wales. Her statement is supported by figures supplied by the commission and Timber Growers United Kingdom Ltd, which represents private forestry interests, showing a significant increase in the planting of broadleaved native tree species in Britain after years of decline or stagnation. Last year in

Britain, private owners planted 11,755 hectares under the Woodland Grant Scheme, financed by the commission, and 3,577 hectares under the Farm Woodland Scheme.

Of the 4,340 hectares planted in England, 3,435 hectares, or nearly 80 per cent were with broadleaves. That is nearly ten times the area of broadleaved planting in England — and four times that in the whole of Britain — in 1980-1.

Arts world urged to fight Clarke

GCSE students should be urged to take at least one arts subject to keep the arts in the schools curriculum, Beverly Anderson, the broadcaster and educationalist, said yesterday (Simon Tait writes).

Speaking at a National Campaign for the Arts conference in London, she criticised the arts community for not doing enough for itself.

Mrs Anderson, a member of the Arts Council, called for lobbying against proposals by Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, to make arts and music optional for pupils after the age of 14.

Siege enquiry

The police and Police Complaints Authority team investigating the death of Derek Wallbanks, who was shot by Northumbria police after a siege last weekend, met in Newcastle yesterday to discuss the investigation as evidence emerged that the dead man was armed with a starting pistol which could not be fired. Police had earlier said they had returned fire after shots were fired at them.

Sweet surprise

A man aged 29 whose persistent cough had baffled doctors was found to have a plastic sweet box lid that he had swallowed 13 years ago lodged in his lung. It was removed when Gavin Marshall, of Worthing, West Sussex, went into hospital at Midhurst after coughing up blood.

CORRECTION

The open day at Stowe Gardens (Best of Britain, Weekend Times, Saturday, October 12) is Sunday, October 20, not Saturday, October 19. The gardens remain open until Sunday, October 27.

Professor flees the spartan groves

By DAVID TYTLER, EDUCATION EDITOR

WHEN Rose Johnstone came to Oxford full of enthusiasm as a respected professor of biochemistry to carry on her research into the function of human blood at a "zenoised and beautiful" place, she knew that she would have to give up some home comforts. She left after a week fearing for

main and only ceiling light was muted by a decorative shade — in deep red — which when lit provided a warm, bordeaux-like glow, but not much light for reading."

She moved out after a week and says: "For me, a single week was more than I could endure. I have lost a considerable sum of money, but retained my sanity. One more week in that red bordeaux and my sanity would be a memory."

Yesterday, Professor Johnstone said that she had cut short planned research into the function of red blood cells from ten to four weeks due to the accommodation with which she had been provided. Would she return? "I like Oxford, it is a lovely town," she said. "I just did not like the place where I was living."

The common kitchen at the lodgings, which were "at least a 30-minute trot to the centre of town" also lacked anything to boil water for a cup of tea. "We may be expected to walk on water in gratitude for the privilege of being at Oxford, but not even Oxford's greatest have managed to boil water without a receptacle," Professor Johnstone says.

No colleges called yesterday admitted being Professor Johnstone's host. A university spokeswoman said: "Many of the old colleges are unable to provide accommodation which is comparable with modern standards, but they are doing their best to provide modern accommodation."



Early work: one of the two pictures signed A. Hitler

'A. Hitler' pastels sell for £17,500

By PETER DAVENPORT

IF IT HAD NOT been for their signatures, the two gilt-framed pastel drawings hanging in the corner of a Yorkshire auction house yesterday would have attracted little attention. But the name A. Hitler brought more than the usual buzz of interest.

Auctioneer Andrew Hartley holds a catalogue auction every two months at his filkley sale room. But for yesterday's event, two interested bidders had reserved telephone lines and prospective purchasers from abroad, including Germany, had registered offers by post.

Lot 383 was described as a pastel still-life with flowers, signed and dated 1901 in an oval gilt-framed measuring 9 1/2 in by 11 1/2 in. It bore the signature A. Hitler. At that time Adolf

Hitler would have been 12 years old.

Lot 384 was a similar still life in a smaller gilt frame, measuring just 8 1/2 inches by 10 1/2 inches and dated 1911.

Mr Hartley said that the pictures were entered for sale by a man who frequently sent items to him for auction. He wanted to remain anonymous and had apparently bought the pictures in a box of oddments at a village hall auction.

Mr Hartley opened bidding for lot 383 with a pre-registered £1,000 offer and it closed within two minutes with a telephone bid of £16,000. The anonymous bidder acquired the second picture for £1,500.

Leading article, page 19

Their world is ending. This is their story.

HITLER AND STALIN

PARALLEL LIVES

ALAN BULLOCK

'A titanic narrative history' INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY

'A magnificent piece of historical writing... makes for compulsive reading' FINANCIAL TIMES

Now available at £20.00

American demand for vintage watches & fine jewels has never been stronger

AUSTIN KAYE

Profit From High American Prices

ROLEX, PATEK PHILIPPE, VACHERON CONSTANTIN, JAEGER LECOULTRE, BREGUET, CHRONOMETRE, SWISS MADE, LONDON, ENGLAND

Phone 071-240 1888

Yarow

Yarow is a new breed of... (text continues)

Cars most at risk from theft face higher premiums

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

SEVEN million car drivers face big increases in premiums as insurance companies attempt to force motorists to protect their cars against theft.

Insurers have acted after paying out £300 million on motor claims in the first six months of this year, which is equal to the amount paid in the whole of 1989.

The Association of British Insurers yesterday issued guidelines to its 450 member companies, which will mean scrapping the present nine-band rating system for cars and moving to a 20-band scheme to allow insurers to identify clearly cars which are most at risk from theft or most likely to be crashed because of their high performance.

Some owners of GTI cars, the most popular with joyriders, face increases of up to 80 per cent.

The association said that

the ratings of about a third of the 21 million cars on the road would increase as a result of its proposals, which should come into force by the middle of next year. However, a third of owners would benefit from discounts because their cars are equipped with manufacturer-fitted alarms and door deadlocks.

The increase in bands allows insurers for the first time to give an accurate reflection of how vulnerable cars are to theft, break-ins or crash damage. They hope that pressure from consumers unwilling to pay much higher premiums will force manufacturers to improve the security and safety ratings of their cars.

Kenneth Baker, the home secretary, welcomed the association's proposals at the launch of the scheme at London Motorfair at Earls

Court. He said: "Most of the cars at the show here are worth £10,000, £20,000 or even £25,000 and yet people treat them with incredible casualness. This new scheme should discourage people from buying high-risk cars and also encourage them to make the effort to make their cars secure."

Mr Baker has given the car makers until Christmas to come up with definite proposals for preventing car thefts and break-ins, which account for 28 per cent of all recorded crime. More than 500,000 cars are stolen annually and 750,000 broken into. He is angry that cars which have highly developed performance are relatively easy to steal. That has led to an increase in joyriding, which helped to spark riots recently on Tyneside and in Oxford.

Car makers who have adopted new security systems are already being rewarded with recognition by the association's new ratings system. A Vauxhall Cavalier 1.6L, for example, is rated in group 4 of the present ratings scheme, representing about a 50 per cent risk on security, safety and performance. However, the car gets a rating of six out of 20 in the new bandings, representing a risk of almost 25 per cent.

Cars in the highest band (20) include the Lotus Carlton and the Mercedes 500 SL. The Golf GTI is at 14, the Astra GTE 1.6 valve at 15 and the Renault 5 GT Turbo at 14 along with the Fiesta XR2i. High power saloons such as the Sierra Cosworth (16), Rover 820si (16) and the Mercedes 190 2.0E (13) also figure among the upper bands.

Traditional repmobiles such as the Ford Sierra 1.8 LX and the Vauxhall Cavalier 1.6 L hover around the halfway mark at 9 and 6 respectively. Cavalier SRi, Audi 80 1.8 and Granada 2.0 Ghia all make it into band 12. Rover 214si, Toyota Corolla 1.3GL and the Citroen BX19 GTD all come within band 8. Those at the bottom of the bandings include the Volvo 440 in band 5, the Volkswagen Polo 1.0 CL in band 4 and the Vauxhall Nova 1.0 Trip in band 3. The Rover Mini City is in band 2.

Birdwood guilty in race hate case

By A STAFF REPORTER

THE Dowager Lady Birdwood was conditionally discharged and ordered to pay £500 towards prosecution costs after being found guilty of distributing anti-Jewish leaflets intended to stir up racial hatred.

Judge Capstick ordered the removal of people from the public gallery at the Central Criminal Court when supporters shouted "shame" and "absolutely disgusting" as the jury found the 78-year-old woman guilty on ten charges. She had defended herself and denied distributing or possessing thousands of "threatening, abusive or insulting" leaflets between April and December last year.

Judge Capstick warned Birdwood, of Acton Vale, west London: "You should know if you continue to break the law you will go to prison." He said that the statutes under which charges had been brought had been enacted under governments of different political persuasions, and that everybody must obey the law.

"If you commit another

offence in the course of the next two years, you are liable to be sentenced for these offences," the judge said.

He ordered Birdwood to pay £500 towards prosecution costs, estimated at £1,000. She was told that if she did not, she was liable to be called before magistrates.

The leaflets she held or distributed included "Jewish Tributes to our Child Mary", "The Ultimate Blasphemy - Revelations from the Talmud" and "Another Blood Libel on Ritual Murder".

David Page, for the prosecution, said that Birdwood had told police that she believed the Zionist element of the Jewish community was masterminding the multi-racial invasion of Britain.

Birdwood told the jury: "The essence of this case is whether in a free country there can be free speech, even involving the most controversial subjects, as in the present case." She argued that the Crown had not proved that anyone had been incited by the leaflets.

Helpline for winter relaunched

By DAVID YOUNG

THE government and the three major charities responsible for the elderly are to relaunch their "Winter Warmth Line" this winter to provide information for vulnerable people to help them to keep warm and well.

Last year the service handled 15,000 calls from elderly people requiring practical help and advice during the cold weather. It is funded by the departments of health and social security and run from the headquarters of Help the Aged with support from Age Concern and Neighbourhood Energy Action. The number is Freephone 0800-289-404.

The phone line is supported by brochures giving details of help available.

Artificial heart can plug into the mains

By THOMSON PRENTICE, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

BATTERY-powered artificial hearts will be implanted in patients with severe cardiac disease in a trial in British hospitals next year.

About 20 patients who are unsuitable for a conventional heart transplant will be offered the device, which can also be powered by mains electricity supplies at home. The artificial unit, an electro-mechanical left ventricular assist device, is inserted into the patient's heart and connected to a rechargeable battery under the arm.

The battery runs the heart for about eight hours, but if linked to the domestic mains supply patients could watch television or sleep "without worry of power loss", Terence Lewis, a consultant cardiac surgeon said yesterday. "The

aim is that they should be able to live an active near-normal and independent life again, hopefully, returning to work."

Mr Lewis, of the Royal London hospital, will give details of the planned trial at an international meeting of cardiologists in London next week. The trial will assess the quality of life, survival of patients and costs compared with medical therapy. Half the patients will be given the titanium device, developed in America and costing up to £30,000. The others will get drugs and intensive care.

Many patients waiting for a heart transplant die because of a shortage of donor organs, John Dark, head of the transplant unit at the Freeman hospital, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, said yesterday.

Yaroooh! Bunter is back

By PHILIP HOWARD
LITERARY EDITOR

YAROOOH! you beasts. Look out! Bunter is back. The Fat Owl of the Remove is being republished, with Mr Quelch, Harry Wharton, and the rest of the famous five at Greyfriars.

Along with Falsstaff and Mr Pickwick, Bunter is one of the overweight comic characters of Eng. Lit. and formed the sense of humour and (bizarre) ideas about public school for generations of children who never went there. George Orwell wrote that Bunter and his creator Frank Richards had more influence on the mind and outlook of young working-class England than any other single person, not excluding Baden-Powell.

But Bunter has been out of print for so long that the young have never heard of him, and look at you blankly when you mention his name. Hawk Books are tomorrow relaunching the yellow-jacketed novels of the famous anti-hero, in his bulging sponge-bag trousers, as they originally appeared in the Fifties.

Bunter, of course, has been with us for much longer than that. He made his first appearance on February 15, 1908, as a minor comic-strip character in *Magnet*. But he rapidly became a national institution. He is lazy, untidy, deceitful, a thief, and always hard-up. Children loved him.

He first graduated from comics into books in 1947. Those Bunters are now much treasured and an original fetches at least £80. But you cannot keep a fat boy down in the land of nostalgia. He is due for a



renaissance, no doubt still expecting a postal order any day now. He was the child of Frank Richards, pen name of Charles Harold St John Hamilton, the most prolific author in the long grind of scribbling. This reclusive classical scholar, using more than 20 pen names, inventing over 100 fictional schools, wrote more than 72 million words of fiction in his lifetime, the equivalent of 1,000 novels. But his imperishable creation is William George (Billy) Bunter, who has passed into the common stock of language and image, and occupies a (wide) seat in the hall of English literature.

Hawk Books will publish facsimiles of all 38 original Bunters starting tomorrow.



Westward bound: the Prince and Princess of Wales photographed by Lord Snowdon to mark their six-day visit to Canada, which starts next Wednesday

Island's wild mice aid cancer research

By KERRY GILL

FARAY, a tiny uninhabited outcrop in the Orkney islands, has had little of which to boast apart from sheep, seals, seabird colonies and a healthy population of former house mice that have become wild. But those mice have a possibly unique genetic make-up.

Faray could find itself at the forefront of cancer research as scientists study the mice. Two British biologists based in the United States have spent a week in a disused schoolhouse on the island, collecting 30 of the mice, which were lured into live traps by peanut butter.

Research on the mice will help the American National Institute of Health in its work on cancer associated oncogenes. Almost by chance it was found that the Faray mice have few oncogenes, making them less susceptible to cancers.

Andrew Berry, a biologist working at Princeton University, was asked to bring back some of the mice for analysis. He went to Faray with Naomi Pierce, who works with Australian butterflies, to trap the mice.

Professor Berry said that the mice had arrived in London where a colony would be bred in a laboratory. DNA extracts from them would be sent to America where it has been found that mice in some sites lose their genetic coding sense over three or four generations and may, in time, become non-carcinogenic.

Man, 19, gets life for 'racial' murder

A WHITE man aged 19 was given a life sentence yesterday for the murder of a black schoolboy in an attack that a judge decided was partly motivated by race hatred.

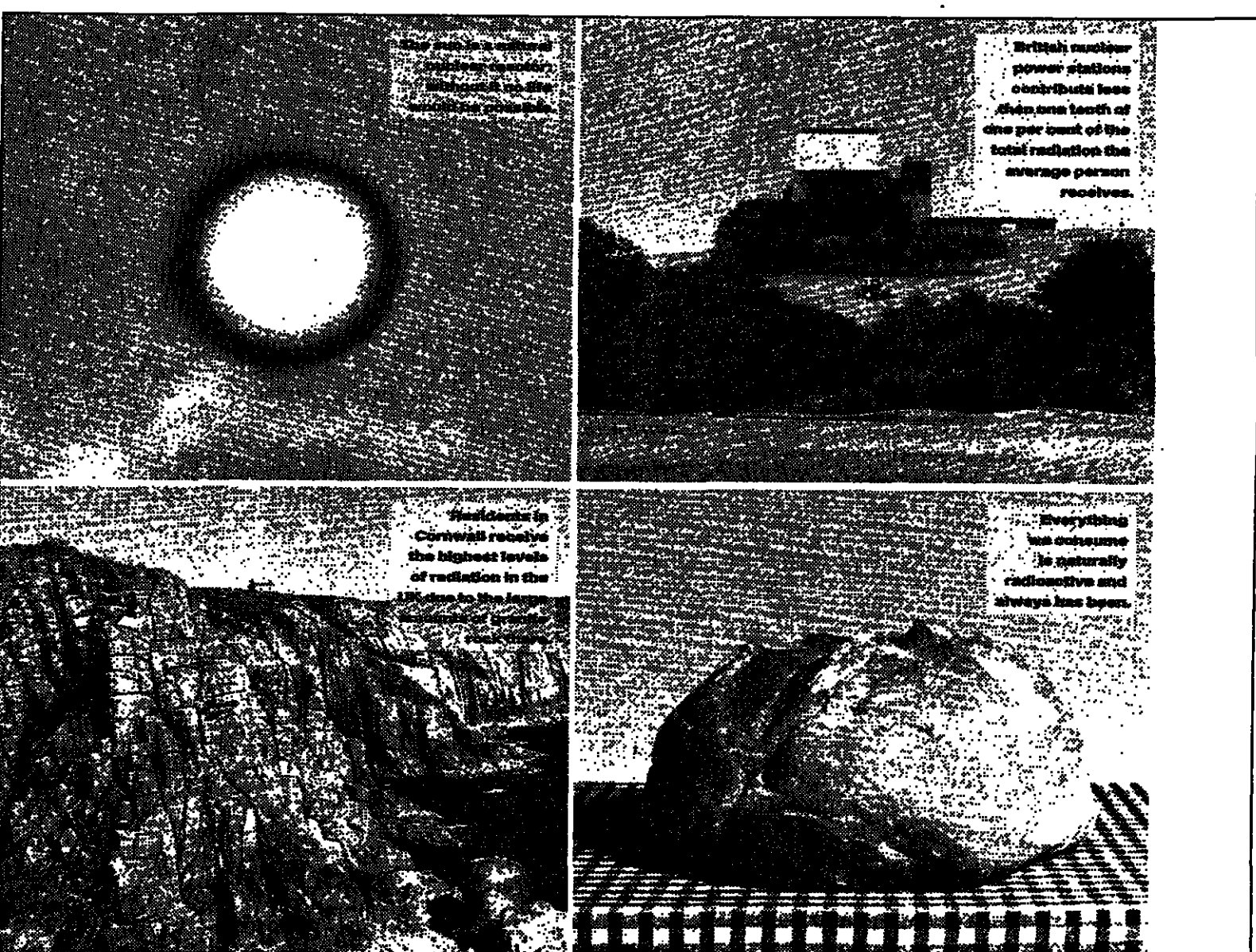
The prosecution at the Old Bailey had said that there was no race motive for the stabbing of Rolan Adams, aged 15, by Mark Thornburrow. However, Judge Richardson, QC, said that the victim had done nothing to deserve the attack and that after hearing the evidence and reading statements by Thornburrow, he was sure that there were "racial overtones". He added: "That is something which the courts will not tolerate."

Relatives and friends of the dead boy cheered and clapped in the public gallery when the jury returned a guilty verdict after the eight-day trial.

Thornburrow, of Thamesmead, southeast London, stabbed the boy in the neck with a butterfly knife after a build-up of tension at the Hawksmoor Youth Club in Thamesmead. He claimed that he had acted in self-defence.

Jean Southworth, QC, for the prosecution, said that the boy and his brother were waiting at a bus stop when Thornburrow ran up behind Rolan Adams and attacked him. The boy ran off but died some distance away.

When arrested Thornburrow told police that Rolan had spat in his face. He also said: "I can't believe he is dead. I saw him run away. There is no way I did that."



RADIATION.

WHICH SOURCE WORRIES YOU MOST?

It is better to be informed about radiation than to be alarmed by it.

Radiation occurs naturally and has been around since time began.

The air you breathe and the ground you stand on are radioactive. Even your body is radioactive. So is everything you touch and everything you consume.

Why are we telling you all this? Because we want to help you put radiation in perspective.

The bulk of the radiation the average person receives, around 87 per cent, comes from entirely natural sources.

The other 13 per cent or so is man-made radiation (identical in its effects to natural radiation) which comes mainly via the medical world, largely from X-rays.

"So what about nuclear electricity?" you may be wondering. The fact of the matter is that nuclear power accounts for less than one tenth of one per cent: a very small percentage of the total.

But what might concern you most is the very high concentration of radioactive material in a nuclear power station.

That's why our nuclear power stations are built the way they are. With safety systems backed up as many as five times over, automatic shut-down devices and barrier upon barrier of protection.

In fact you would receive less radiation living next to a nuclear power station than you would living in many parts of Cornwall, the area with the highest levels of natural radiation in Britain. Hard to believe, but true.

Come to nuclear power with an open mind.

For a free information pack please write to the **British Nuclear Forum**, 22 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6LB. Or ring **0272 244750**.

Name

Address

TT01



THE WAY TO A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF NUCLEAR POWER IS TO BECOME FAMILIAR WITH ALL ITS ASPECTS. THE BRITISH NUCLEAR FORUM HOPES THIS MESSAGE, ONE OF A SERIES COVERING ISSUES AT THE HEART OF NUCLEAR POWER, SHOWS OUR WILLINGNESS TO GIVE YOU THE FACTS.

Whose finger will be on Channel 3's control button?



Dyke: one of the five possible contenders

THE person who will have more influence over what appears on the new Channel 3 than any of yesterday's winners has yet to be chosen. Even the criteria by which the successful candidate will decide which programmes to buy and when to broadcast them, come 1993, is as yet undetermined.

The winning independent television companies have three months to devise an independent central scheduling system that will deprive them of their right, held for 35 years, to schedule their own programmes. Only next spring will they be ready to hire the person who will have the power to pick and choose from the offerings of the 15 regional Channel 3 companies, as well as Britain's 800 independent producers. Under the 1990 Broadcasting Act, none of the

winners will be able to guarantee that the dramas, comedies and documentaries promised in their applications will materialise on the national independent network.

Nor can they prevent those they have defeated, such as Thames and TVS, from selling their own programmes to the network as independents. Though Thames lost its licence, programmes such as *The Bill* and *This Week* will still appear on the small screen after 1993 if the central scheduler wants them.

The search for that all-important scheduler has already begun, but with Michael Grade tied to Channel 4 with £500,000 "golden handcuffs", the successful candidate is likely to be poached from a big ITV company — winner or loser. Names bandied about include: Greg Dyke,

Melinda Wittstock reports on the need for an influential and powerful central television scheduler and, below, looks at the winners in the great franchise auction

managing director of London Weekend and a major backer of Sunrise; Andy Allan, managing director of Central Broadcasting; Steve Morrison, director of programmes at Granada; Charles Denton, managing director of Zenith Productions; and David Elstein, director of programmes at Thames.

Before anyone will agree to take the job, they will want to see the job description. Disagreement is expected among winners and independent producers on how much power the central scheduler should be given. During a Royal Tele-

vision Society debate on central scheduling last month, Andrew Quinn, managing director of Granada, said new licencees "should not surrender their sovereignty" to the central scheduler. But independent producers disagree. Mr Denton, one of the likely candidates, said the central scheduler must have executive decision-making power outside the independent television companies' direct control if independents are to get a fair hearing.

If yesterday's winners fail to agree on the new system by

January 31 1992, as is feared, the Independent Television Commission will impose a new system. The Office of Fair Trading, which wants independent television network arrangements opened up to public scrutiny, has until next July satisfy itself that the new arrangements are fair and open.

Three months is not long to establish the system by which independent television's success will be guaranteed or lost. Disputes are expected over the size, structure and location of the central scheduling unit, as well as whether independents may completely bypass the independent television companies and take their proposals direct to the central scheduler.

Leslie Hill, chief executive of Central Television which retained its licence unopposed, said: "It is

very unlikely 15 separate companies will agree. We think the system will have to be imposed."

Either way, the winners will have difficulty agreeing on the size of their contributions to the annual network budget, likely to be set at the present rate of £450 million in the first year. Central, which paid just £2,000 a year, will have a hard time agreeing with, for instance, Yorkshire, which bid £37.7 million a year. A decision by leading licencees to cut expenditure could mean the difference between 200 hours of original network drama and 110 hours of drama with 90 hours of repeats.

LONDON WEEKDAY

Slimline victor will create wave of change

MICHAEL Green has long coveted Thames Television's lucrative franchise. The chairman of Carlton Communications, which yesterday ousted Thames in the biggest upset of the auction, has looked forward to this day since 1985, when the Independent Broadcasting Authority blocked his £82.5 million takeover bid for Thames.

Six years ago the authority ruled that a Carlton bid would lead to a "major change in the nature and characteristics" of a viable independent television company, but only after Richard Dunn, who had been managing director of Thames for just a week, asked the regulator to stop the bid.

It was that ruling, broadcasters now say, that paved the way for yesterday's decision. Not only does Mr

its programmes, except regional news, from independent producers with proven records in drama, light entertainment, factual and current affairs programmes.

Paul Jackson, Carlton's programme director and an independent producer of alternative comedy programmes, said yesterday: "I'm delighted with this new opportunity for the independent sector. I have long believed that some of the best production ideas and creative talent comes from within the independent sector, where the quality of ideas are all that counts."

Carlton, which is offering more than 500 hours of new programmes to the ITV network in 1993, has already invested over £2 million in developing 70 new programmes from 30 independent production companies which between them have won 120 awards.

PROMISES: £80 million programme budget, eight hours of local programming weekly and 500 hours of network programming annually; will replace *This Week* with a new current affairs programme, *Seven Days*.

Green hate to lose, but his loss at the hands of the Thames management and the authority strengthened the resolve of the Thatcher government to break up what it perceived to be a cosy insiders' club with a cold draft of deregulation.

Mr Green is already very much a part of that club. His Buckinghamshire millhouse was filled with the who's who of the British broadcasting establishment last year when he married Tessa Buckmaster, who works for Carlton Communications. His close friends Michael Grade, chief executive of Channel 4, and Alan Yentob, controller of BBC2, sat with the couple at the head table. John Birt, deputy director-general of the BBC, and David Elstein, director of programmes at Thames, also attended.

With yesterday's news, Mr Green, aged 42, one of Britain's wealthiest men with a personal fortune of £50 million, becomes one of the club's most powerful members. He is likely to become still richer now that he can add British commercial television's most lucrative franchises to the £1 billion television production, facilities and editing company he founded in 1973. Carlton also has a 30 per cent stake in Central, which retained its licence unopposed with a bid of just £2,000 a year.

Mr Green has the tenacity and business acumen that has been lacking in the television industry. He stands ready to revolutionise the independent television system in a way even he might not have contemplated back in 1985.

The awarding of the largest ITV licence to Carlton, whose £43.2 million outbid Thames by £10.7 million, will create waves of structural change throughout television, forcing thousands of programme makers out of secure jobs.

Unlike Thames, which proposed to retain its studios and its 1,300 employees to remain a large programme maker as well as a broadcaster, Carlton chose an altogether different formula, which let it keep its cost base low enough to outbid Thames and still convince the commission it could put quality programmes on the air. Carlton, which will employ just 400 people, will buy in all

Much of Carlton's drama output will be supplied by Zenith, Carlton's 51 per cent-owned subsidiary, which produced *Inspector Morse*, *Byker Grove* and the acclaimed drama-documentary *Shoot To Kill*. Viewers can expect *Cleared for Takeoff*, an action drama series about airline security; *Body and Soul*, about a nun leaving her enclosed order; and *Routes*, an early evening soap opera created by Julia Smith, the producer of *EastEnders*, about two families in the transport business.

Comedy will be supplied by five independents: Hat Trick, makers of Channel 4's *Drop the Dead Donkey*; Noel Gay, Mr Jackson's company; Humphrey Barclay, who made *Demands*; Spitting Image; and Grant Naylor, maker of *Red Dwarf*. Carlton has commissioned a series of comedy dramas under the title *Comedy Playhouse*, and new satire shows being developed.

Carlton plans to replace *This Week* with a 20-year-old current affairs programme, with *Seven Days*, a half-hour show made by Claudia Milne, whose company Twenty Twenty Vision made its reputation with investigative documentaries such as the award-winning *Island of Outcasts*, about mentally ill people incarcerated on a Greek island.

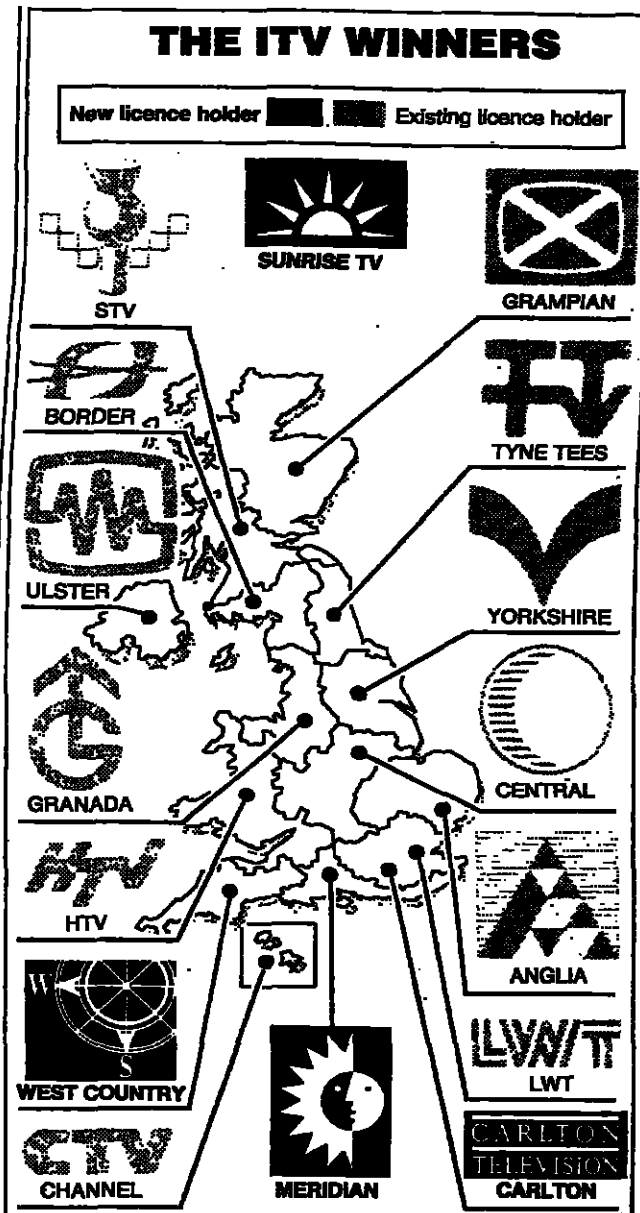
Regional programmes will run from 5.10pm to 6.30pm Monday to Thursday, with the *Carlton News Hour* starting at 5.30pm and enveloping ITN's *News at 5.40*. Regular regional bulletins will be broadcast through the day.

Regional programmes will run from 5.10pm to 6.30pm Monday to Thursday, with the *Carlton News Hour* starting at 5.30pm and enveloping ITN's *News at 5.40*. Regular regional bulletins will be broadcast through the day.

Under a "golden handcuff" bonus and share option scheme introduced two years ago to ensure the loyalty of 44 key executives, Christopher Bland, the chairman, and Greg Dyke, the managing director, almost trebled their money as LWT shares jumped 53p to 198p yesterday.

But it is not just the executives who get 14.7 per cent of the company — they include Melvyn Bragg, the arts

headquarters with the news that Sunrise TV, in which LWT has a 20 per cent stake, displaced TV-am to win the national breakfast licence. Sunrise's other shareholders include Walt Disney, Scottish Television and Guardian Newspapers, publishers of *The Guardian* and *Manchester Evening News*.



SOUTH COAST

Now for someone quite familiar

INDEPENDENT television viewers in what is the richest regional area in Britain will already be familiar with one of the stars the company plans to promote.

Meridian's board, which includes the actor Michael Palin, Bill Cotton, the former BBC television managing director, and Sir Richard Luce, the former arts minister, raised £36.5 million funding to win the bid and draw up its convincing schedules.

Palin, who is in Kenya making a travel programme, said: "I joined with the zebras, giraffes, hyenas and greater kudus in rejoicing at this wonderful news. Our approach was serious, practical and realistic and it paid off."

The company says it will create three new broadcasting regions in place of the current two in the South and South-East of England. It aims to develop programmes with performers who include Robbie Coltrane, Rowan Atkinson and Tracey Ullman. The com-

pany is 65 per cent owned by the financial and information services group MAI, 20 per cent by the successful Midlands bidder Central TV and 15 per cent by the independent producer SelectTV.

Meridian South-East will cover Kent, East Sussex and parts of Surrey and Essex. PROMISES: to commission network dramas and comedies from independent producers; create three new regions, based in Maidstone, Southampton and Newbury, each with own nightly news bulletin and current affairs magazine.

Meridian South will cover Brighton, Southampton, West Sussex, south Hampshire, the Isle of Wight and parts of Dorset and Surrey, and Meridian West will cover Berkshire, North Hampshire and the Thames Valley. The company plans news production centres in Southampton, Maidstone and Newbury.

BREAKFAST TIME

Sunrise offers good cheer and more information

GOOD morning Britain. It's 6am and here is the news just about everyone in the television industry expected: Sunrise TV, the consortium offering "a cheerful morning with a bit more information behind it", has displaced TV-am as the new national breakfast contractor.

Cartoons will disappear from the weekday screen in 1993, to be replaced by children's news and current affairs bulletins. Sunrise, backed by LWT, Scottish TV, Walt Disney and *The Guardian*, won the lucrative licence after outbidding both TV-am, Britain's most profitable station, and Daybreak, its ITN and Daily Telegraph-backed rival, with a cash offer of £34.6 million.

TV-am's sofas may be replaced by the Sunrise oval breakfast table, but the new morning programme, *Daybreak*, will continue in TV-am's cheerful, lively vein. "We are appealing to the current viewers whom we

don't want to lose," said Liz Howell, Sunrise's director of programmes. "But we will attract the large numbers of people who don't watch breakfast television at all with more news and more information."

Unlike Daybreak, TV-am's other challenger, Sunrise felt it would be risky to tamper too

much with TV-am's highly successful format. "It would be a big mistake to jerk it upmarket," said Michael Braham, a non-executive director of Sunrise and independent producer who will supply Sunrise's Sunday morning current affairs magazine, *SundayBreak*, as well as its 8.50am weekday magazine, *Daybreak Plus*. "The audi-

ence out there is mostly downmarket, mostly women and mostly outside London," Mr Braham said.

Sunrise promises viewers a rolling news programme, with local news, weather and traffic "opt-outs" (area transmissions) for the 18 ITV regions and sub-regions. Regional ITV companies will supply six three-minute bulletins every weekday. Independent producers will provide a daily regional feature for each of the 18 opt-outs, while *Live Link* will bring a live outside broadcast each morning.

Children will get their own news bulletins at 7.20am every morning with children's programmes, including Disney cartoons dominating Saturday mornings. From 8.50am on weekdays, when 70 per cent of the breakfast audience are women, *Daybreak Plus* will contain features ranging from health, diet, stress and yoga to education and reviews of books, films and videos.

SOUTHWEST

Highlight on news for region

THE backbone of Westcountry Television's successful bid for the South-West region was the provision of news and current affairs programmes for the area.

The company, whose principal shareholders include Associated Newspapers, Britany Ferries and South West Water, has John Banham, CBI director-general, as chairman-designate and has submitted a planning application to build studios in Plymouth.

Frank Copplestone, aged 66, the company's deputy chairman, was managing director of Southern TV, which lost its licence to TVS in the last round of franchise awards ten years ago.

He is a broadcasting veteran, having entered the TV industry in 1957 after leaving the army. Colleagues say he is a born leader. He was president of the National Union of

PROMISES: regional news opt-outs for Truro, Exeter and Barnstaple; more coverage on education, health, crime prevention, environment and transport; more weekend news.

Students during his time at Nottingham University and when serving in the army helped others after being wounded on the Normandy beaches.

Mr Copplestone, aged 66, acted quickly by yesterday recruiting John Presscott-Thomas, the BBC's regional head. The company has already recruited LWT's Richard Myers and TV-am's Jane Clarke. Full details of schedules are still secret, but two subjects to be screened will be sailing and rugby.

Among the first tasks for WCT is to find an emblem to represent its image for the South-West, but the involvement of South West Water PLC and Associated Newspapers has already led to local criticism. South West Water is seen as a controversial body in light of the highly publicised Camelford water poisoning incident in North Cornwall and Associated Newspapers owns large parts of the local press.

MIDLANDS

Central poised to be leading player

CENTRAL Independent Television stands to become the most powerful player in the new Channel 3.

The station gambled with the blind bidding procedure and won: it put in a bid of just £2,000 a year, guessing correctly that it would be out of the bidding. The cost at 1993 prices amounts to just over £5 a day.

Central, the second largest ITV company with an audience of nine million, now has the chance to become the most profitable. Best known for as *Inspector Morse* and *Spitting Image*, Central has the financial muscle to make it the biggest contributor to the national network.

Yesterday's news that Meridian Broadcasting had displaced TVS in the South and South-East was welcome news for Central, which has a 20 per cent share in Meridian. Meanwhile, Carlton Communications, which yesterday displaced Thames,

owns 20 per cent of Central. However, the hidden cost of Central's derisory bid is vulnerability to takeover by European media giants, who are free to acquire ITV companies from January 1994.

PROMISES: to continue as integrated producer-broadcaster; invest £18 million on new Birmingham TV centre; more than 100 regional news bulletins weekly; to establish Oxford centre for TV history.

when the moratorium on takeovers expires. It is not surprising, therefore, that Leslie Hill, chairman and chief executive of Central TV, who last week disclosed a 50 per cent drop in pre-tax profits for the first half of this year, is spearheading a campaign to relax cross-ownership curbs preventing ITV companies from acquiring continental broadcasters, or, as he puts it, from "growing to a reasonable size" in Britain.



Happy day: Michael Green, Carlton's non-executive chairman, in winning mood

BELGRAVE CARPET GALLERY LTD
3 Old Bond Street, London W1
Tel No: 071 499 6149
CLOSING DOWN SALE
Of Oriental Carpets & Rugs
75% OFF
All stock must go.
Open: Mon-Sat 10.30 to 6.15pm
Sun: 10.30 to 5.30pm

Thames, a wounded Phoenix, takes flight into production

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

LOSS of a commercial television franchise used to mean certain death at the hands of a liquidator. Now, fortunately for yesterday's losers, it promises a new life in a different incarnation.

Months before the Independent Television Commission confirmed industry speculation that Thames Television would lose its licence to Carlton, Thames executives had put together a confidential contingency plan.

It will involve at least 1,000 redundancies, but Thames will emerge as Europe's most powerful independent producer and programme distributor, it claimed yesterday. Under the plan, Thames will close its Euston headquarters but keep open its Teddington studios, and concentrate entirely on producing peak-time popular hits such as *Minder*, *The Bill* and *This Is Your Life*.

These, along with other programmes in its 9,000-hour library, will be sold to independent television and the BBC. "We can be more profitable this way," Thames said. Being forced out of broadcasting will save £32.5 million a year in bid payments, about £30 million a year in advertising revenue taxes and about £10 million in transmitter costs. With staff reduced from 1,300 to just 200 or 300, Thames's overheads will be cut significantly.

Thorn EMI, its biggest

shareholder with 56 per cent, pledged last night to stand by Thames to help it to develop into a powerful US-style studio - a home for writers and producers who would be "published" under the Thames name. Thames will also consider launching one or two channels on Astra, the Luxembourg-based satellite via which BSkyB broadcasts.

However, to succeed in a brave new world of independent status will require a complete change in management attitudes. Robin Foster, media consultant at the National Economic Research Association, said: "Thames is not used to competition in network supply, they will need to readjust the way they operate. They may need to form liaisons with others in Europe to bring in such expertise."

There is life after death for yesterday's other losers, although none will find it so easy as Thames. TV-am, which lost to Sunrise, hopes to move its popular breakfast programme onto Channel 4 in 1993. Although Liz Forgan, Channel 4's director of programmes, ruled out the proposal last month, Michael Grade, the chief executive, is understood still to be interested.

TV-am, which now reaches 70 per cent of the breakfast audience, could greatly increase Channel 4's morning ratings as its loyal 17 million

viewers switched channels. The move would bring Channel 4 about £20 million in extra revenue each year, but could impair the financial health of Sunrise, which bid £34.6 million to unseat TV-am. The breakfast channel's other options include joining a consortium bidding for the new Channel 5 as its news provider, or linking up with Sky News, the 24-hour news channel.

The other losers - TVS and TSW - could turn themselves into regionally based independents, merging with others to become more powerful programme suppliers. By 1994, when takeover restrictions are abandoned, they could take over a winning Channel 3 licence.

TVS, however, has already told its shareholders that its "preferred strategy" will be to wind the company up. TSW, worth little more than the break-up value of its assets, is also likely to be wound up by its shareholders.

Anger and tears as losers hear news

By JAMIE DETTMER

NEVER have so many journalists got so wet for so little. As the scrums of reporters and photographers waited impatiently outside Thames Television and TV-am yesterday, only the traffic wardens seemed happy to work in the downpour, placing tickets on the press cars.

"Go away," a ferocious guard at TV-am said when he was asked whether reporters were allowed inside. "Go away," said an equally aggressive doorman at Thames's headquarters in Euston Road, London.

Few staff at either company were keen to talk to reporters immediately after the news broke that the Independent Television Commission had turned down their bids. Many felt that the newspapers were partly responsible for the changes in the franchise system. "The feeling is that the newspapers egged on the government in its reform plans and supported ministers when they attacked controversial programmes during Mrs Thatcher's time in office," a Thames News journalist said. Most of Thames's 1,400 staff



Studio exit: Trish Ingrams, the Thames presenter, leaving yesterday

heard that they had lost the bid shortly before 10am from a report on ITN. "We were stunned," said a television researcher, who, like her colleagues, did not want to be named.

"The last few days have been rather exciting as we have waited to find out what would happen. The atmosphere has been a bit like

Christmas. But the present is rather horrible." A few people cried, although many looked misty-eyed.

Shortly before 10.30, hundreds of the staff gathered in studio five to listen to Richard Dunn, Thames's chief executive. Others remained at their posts and heard his statement on the firm's close-circuit television system. Mr

Dunn told them that the new franchise system was unfair. He warned them that a thousand jobs would have to go by 1993 but the company would survive as Britain's largest independent production firm.

Most of the questions Mr Dunn was asked by staff were hostile and fears were expressed about redundancy terms. Even so, the chief

executive was applauded at the end of the meeting. "I think it was the herd habit. They thought they were a studio-audience, I suspect," a staff-member said.

At a small wake in the nearby Prince of Wales' Feathers pub, most of the talk was about job prospects. "If this had happened two years ago, it would have been okay, there were a lot of jobs in television around then," a young man said to a group of depressed-looking people. "No I won't have a double, I've still got to get a programme out," someone shouted over the crowded bar.

A mile away in Camden, north London, TV-am staff also decided to drown their sorrows. In the Oxford Arms, there was laughter and tears. There was also anger, with staff complaining that TV-am's bid was too low, a claim made by Thames staff as well.

At the studios, David Frost, a TV-am presenter and one of the founders of the station, left in a Rolls-Royce saying "there is great sadness". He continued: "When I was at school I was told the important thing was not winning but taking part. I did not believe it then and I certainly do not believe it now."

Ulrika Jonsson, the station's weather forecaster, said: "It's a tragedy. The whole affair is dreadful. It's a very, very sad day, but you should not be worrying about me, you should worry about the viewers."

Redmond astonished by defeat

By RONALD FAUX

PHIL Redmond, the chief executive of North West Television, whose £35 million bid for the Granada franchise was rejected in favour of a £9 million bid by the incumbent, said he was astonished and disappointed when the decision reached his Liverpool headquarters yesterday.

North West had spent more than £1 million on making its bid and legal action would be considered, he told a press conference. "Our board meets on Friday and it will be discussed then," he said.

Mr Redmond, who is head of Mersey Television, which has *Grange Hill* and *Waterfront Beat* on BBC1 and *Brookside* on Channel 4, said that North West seemed to have cleared Beechers Brook only to fall at the water jump. He was surprised that other companies had cleared the quality threshold whereas North West had not.

The choice of Granada when the two bids were so wide apart was "a bit odd". He added: "Looking at our regional proposals, they were so exceptional, so innovative, much higher than anyone anywhere else in the system has put forward. The decision is just astounding."

TVS may take legal action

By PETER VICTOR

TVS was considering legal action yesterday over the Independent Television Commission's decision not to grant it a franchise, and union members at its Southampton headquarters expressed regret and disappointment.

The company said that it was considering its options, including the possibility of asking for a judicial review of the ITC decision. Rudolph Agnew, the TVS chairman, said: "We are surprised and bitterly disappointed that the licence has not been awarded to TVS Television. TVS Television had prepared its application with great care and with full regard for the ITC's requirements."

Steve Harris, chairman of the joint shop stewards committee, issued a written statement saying: "We particularly regret that this is the result of a grossly inequitable and unjust system of allocation." He criticised the government's handling of the bidding process and claimed it was part of a broader attack on broadcast media.

Staff leaving work in a sombre mood said they had been ordered not to speak to the press. Management also declined to comment.

Game show with win or bust result

By PETER BARNARD

IN THE half hour before the announcement of the commercial television franchises yesterday morning, the independent television network transmitted a quiz called *Jeopardy!* As if the title were insufficiently ironic, the format consisted of people being given the answers and scoring points by supplying the questions, which some in independent television regard as a fair description of the blind bidding process.

One answer not included in the programme was "TVS". The question that goes with it is: "Who makes *Jeopardy!* for the independent television network?" At 10am came an ITN bulletin confirming that, for TVS, jeopardy was a reality as well as a game show.

How many great programmes, or at least much loved favourites, are to be lost with the disappearance of Thames, TV-am, TVS and TSW? Thames, which took the likes of *Beany Hill*, *Tommy Cooper*, *Eric Sykes*, *The Bill* and *Minder* to international fame, will continue as a production company, so its established programmes look secure. Whether this applies to *The Sooty Show* is open to question. And whether Thames

will continue to make *Strike it Lucky*, the Michael Barrymore showcase, may largely depend on the company and the network retaining a sense of humour.

TSW, one of the smallest franchises, has not been very visible on the network, but TV-am is another matter. It is, of course, famed for making Anne Diamond and for featuring David Frost, who, with Angela Rippon and Michael Parkinson, launched the ship into stormy financial waters.

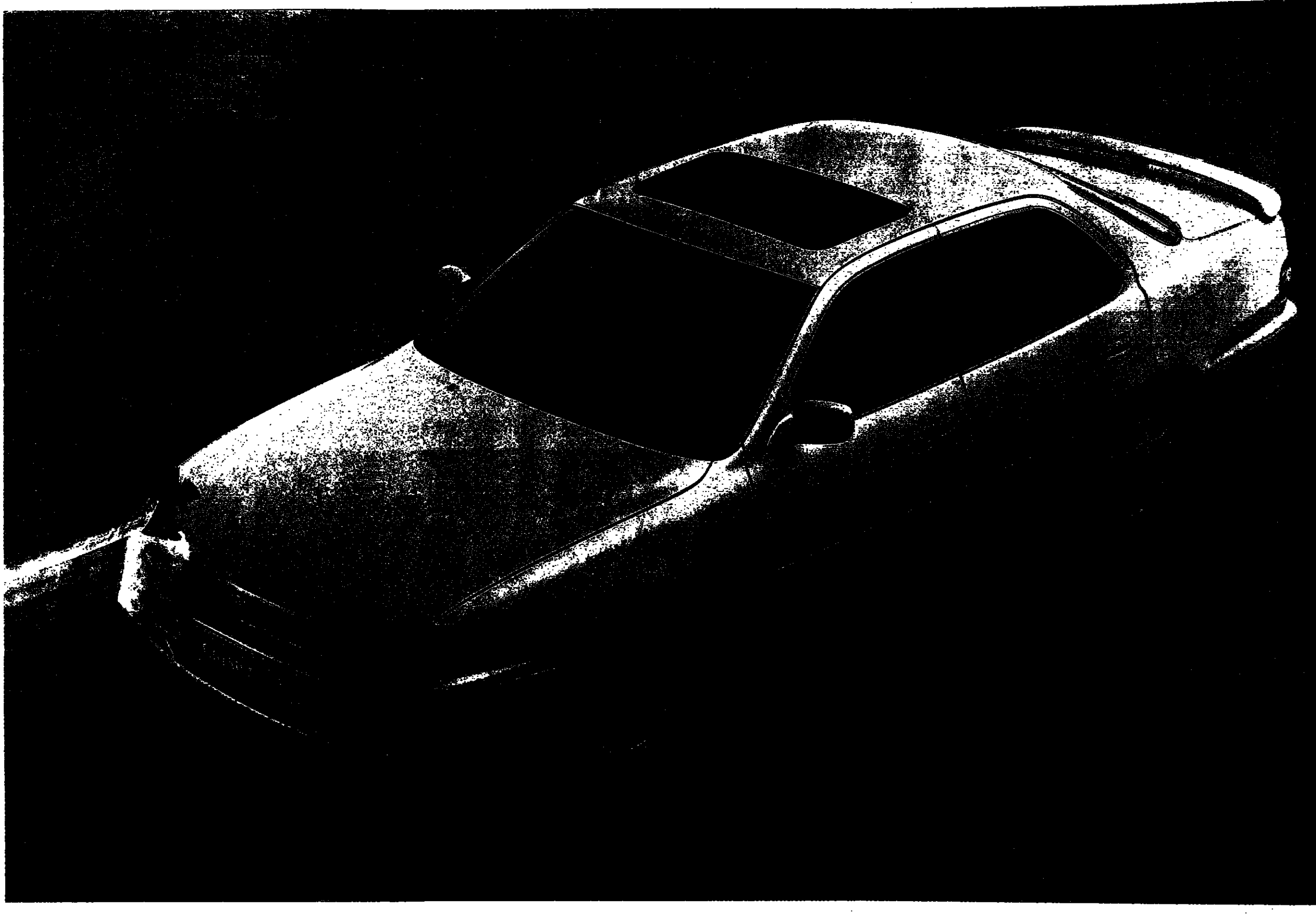
The latter two have long since lowered their profiles (that is, gone into radio too). Frost, who conducts Sunday morning interviews for TV-am, would survive on the 13th floor of a building suffering from concrete cancer erected on the San Andreas fault; the failure of his consortium is a mere blip.

Today, at Claridge's, TV-am gives its annual awards for television critics. This is not billed as a black-tie event, but shows every sign of being sombre. On Sunday, independent television screens *The Human Factor*, a network contribution from TVS. This week's programme is sub-titled "Back to where we belong". Is that a question or an answer?



IF YOU LIE AWAKE
WONDERING WHERE TO
PUT YOUR SAVINGS,
TRY TURNING OVER.

SHH...TOYOTA ARE LAUNCHING THEIR NEW FLAGSHIP



(THE UNBELIEVABLY QUIET CAMRY.)

緩

"Only when the body is truly relaxed can inner peace be attained."

We have to admit that the arrival of the new Toyota Camry did incline us towards cracking the odd bottle of champagne.

Although, in deference to the quiet refinement of the car, the celebrations were naturally a little restrained.

All modesty aside; in design, technology, comfort and looks, it really is an incredibly sophisticated executive saloon.

It's also incredibly quiet. The Toyota Camry is designed to be keen but not heard.

The all alloy three litre 24 valve V6 engine whisks you from 0 to 60 in less than 9 seconds.

Yet, sink back into the all leather upholstery, stretch out (stretch up too if you wish, there's

plenty of room) then switch on and listen. You'll hear a sound that's rare in this hectic age; it's yourself thinking.

Even travelling at speed, the engine has no need to raise its voice.

And in order that nothing should disturb the Camry's inner calm, we've fitted an electronically controlled automatic gearbox that changes gear so smoothly it's imperceptible.

We have also dealt with 'boom' (that old mixture of road, wind and engine noise that normally accompanies you the entire length of the motorway) by a mixture of clever design and ingenious innovation.

For instance, the Camry's engine and suspension are independently mounted on to

anti-vibration sub frames, effectively isolating you from the source of road and engine noise.

And by flush mounting everything from doors to door handles to lights, plus some clever aerodynamics, including specially fitted body panels that actually deflect noise away, we've cut wind rush to a hush.

But the car isn't just quiet. With creature comforts like a six-speaker RDS stereo, leather upholstery, electric sunroof and windows, ABS braking, catalytic converter and air conditioning

all fitted as standard on the V6 GX, (along with a full 3 year warranty*) it's positively luxurious.

However, while the Camry's standards may be somewhat higher than other executive cars, its price certainly is not.

The range starts at £17,520 for the 16 valve

2.2 litre GL rising to £22,325 for the V6 GX.

Before you pay more for less, why not take a test drive? (To find your nearest dealer call 0420 22607).

We think you'll be quietly impressed.

To: Toyota Information Service, PO Box 30, Alton, Hants GU34 4PX. Please send me more information. Camry ☐ Toyota Saloons ☐ Sports ☐ Specialist ☐ Please contact me to arrange a test drive. ☐

Title _____ Initials _____ Surname _____ T12/10

Address _____

Postcode _____

Daytime phone no. _____

Current car _____

Model _____ Reg. letter _____

Intended replacement date: Month _____ Year _____

TOYOTA CAMRY

FROM £17,520 TO £22,325

Glut rep hom sale

By CHRISTOPHER

THE large number of homes on the market is preventing the price of the housing market from rising, a survey states. The survey, published last week, shows that in a blunt assessment of the market, the number of homes on the market is preventing the price of the housing market from rising, a survey states. The survey, published last week, shows that in a blunt assessment of the market, the number of homes on the market is preventing the price of the housing market from rising, a survey states.

In a blunt assessment of the market, the number of homes on the market is preventing the price of the housing market from rising, a survey states. The survey, published last week, shows that in a blunt assessment of the market, the number of homes on the market is preventing the price of the housing market from rising, a survey states.

With more than 100,000 homes on the market, the number of homes on the market is preventing the price of the housing market from rising, a survey states. The survey, published last week, shows that in a blunt assessment of the market, the number of homes on the market is preventing the price of the housing market from rising, a survey states.

Peter Miller, spokesman for the National Association of Estate Agents, said: "The market is still very weak, with estate agents reporting that the number of homes on the market is preventing the price of the housing market from rising, a survey states. The survey, published last week, shows that in a blunt assessment of the market, the number of homes on the market is preventing the price of the housing market from rising, a survey states."

He predicted that the economy's improvement would lead to a rise in the price of the housing market, but that the market would remain weak for some time. "The market is still very weak, with estate agents reporting that the number of homes on the market is preventing the price of the housing market from rising, a survey states. The survey, published last week, shows that in a blunt assessment of the market, the number of homes on the market is preventing the price of the housing market from rising, a survey states."

Mark Jackson of A

Conce at Tipp thinner

Tipp-Ex UK is removing its solvent thinner fluid from the market after studying reports that the product was being used in the Belgian market. A report from the Belgian market, published last week, showed that the product was being used in the Belgian market. A report from the Belgian market, published last week, showed that the product was being used in the Belgian market.

Loanase Johnston, UK marketing manager for the company, said: "The company was taking steps to ensure that the product was not being used in the Belgian market. A report from the Belgian market, published last week, showed that the product was being used in the Belgian market. A report from the Belgian market, published last week, showed that the product was being used in the Belgian market."

The Reading student, Zeb, aged 16, was killed in a car crash in the town of Reading. The crash occurred on a road in the town of Reading. The crash occurred on a road in the town of Reading. The crash occurred on a road in the town of Reading.

Orphans ro

Children's clothes, household items and other goods were found in a room at a private hospital in Reading. The items were found in a room at a private hospital in Reading. The items were found in a room at a private hospital in Reading.

Asbestos al

Customers at a chemist in Loughlin, Essex, have bought goods which can cause cancer. The goods were bought at a chemist in Loughlin, Essex. The goods were bought at a chemist in Loughlin, Essex.

Hot potato

An entire field of potatoes was stolen from a farm in Newbury. The potatoes were stolen from a farm in Newbury. The potatoes were stolen from a farm in Newbury.

Soldiers hu

Five soldiers were killed when two armoured carriers collided in Salisbury Plain, Wiltshire.

CAMRI

Glut of cheap repossessed homes curbs sales revival

... ..

Party anxious to avoid embarrassment in November 7 poll

Labour may bar Scargill ally from key by-election

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A CLOSE ally of Arthur Scargill may be blocked by Labour chiefs today from representing the party in the imminent by-election at Hemsworth in Yorkshire, one of three contests being held in a "mini-general-election" on November 7.

Ken Capstick, vice-chairman of the National Union of Mineworkers, faces a tough grilling from a high-powered committee whose members include Roy Hattersley, the deputy leader, Joyce Gould, Labour's director of organisation, and David Hill, the communications director. It is chaired by Eddie Haigh, former assistant general secretary of the transport workers' union.

In a seat that has always been a NUM stronghold Mr Capstick is easily the front-runner in terms of nominations secured from party branches and trade unions. He may be dropped, however, because of fears that he could embarrass the party. The by-election panel, set up after Labour's defeat in the Glasgow Govan by-election

in 1988, is charged with ensuring that the party has a suitable candidate who can stand up to media scrutiny in the special circumstances of a by-election.

Senior Labour figures believe that Mr Capstick could be a liability in the by-election because of his close identification with the NUM president, an implacable opponent of Neil Kinnock.

While Labour is certain to hold one of its safest seats irrespective of the candidate, leaders fear he might harm the party's chances in the other two by-elections on the same day, at Kincardine and Deeside, and Langbaugh where it is trying to overturn a small Conservative majority.

At today's session at Wakefield town hall the panel will interview Mr Capstick and the other candidates and then draw up a shortlist from which the local Hemsworth party will pick their candidate tonight. The selection process has been telescoped into 12 hours to enable the party to



Hattersley: member of committee that will closely examine candidates

be ready to launch a speedy campaign for November 7. If Mr Capstick is on the shortlist, he will almost certainly be chosen.

Aged 50, he was born in the constituency and lives three miles from the boundary. He has already picked up four of the ten branches and he has the backing of five unions. However, the panel has dropped front-runners before and may do so today if it is

not convinced that Mr Capstick will disown allegiance to far-left Scargillite policies. The write for the three contests were moved in the Commons yesterday. At Langbaugh, Cleveland, Labour needs a swing of only 1.7 per cent to overturn the 2,088 Conservative majority. At Kincardine, Nicol Stephen, the Liberal Democrat candidate, needs a 2.2 per cent swing to overturn the 2,063

Tory lead. General election: Kincardine and Deeside: A. Buchanan (Lab), 19,438; N. Stephen (Lib), 17,375; J. Thomson (SNP), 7,624; F. Duncan (SNP), 3,082; L. Perica (Green), 299. C. maj: 2,063. Langbaugh: R. Holt (Lab), 26,047; P. Harford (Lib), 23,959; R. Ashby (Lib), 12,405. C. maj: 2,088. Hemsworth: G. Buckley (Lab), 27,859; E. Garnier (C), 7,159; J. Woolfenden (Lib), 6,568. Lab maj: 20,700.

MPs will see 'Iraq export' firms

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MPs ARE to question British firms that exported nuclear, chemical and other potentially lethal equipment to Iraq in the months before President Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait.

At a private meeting yesterday, the Commons trade and industry committee also decided to call trade officials next month to explain how sensitive equipment was licensed for export by the department despite the arms embargo agreed in 1985 in reaction to the Iran-Iraq war. Later in the next session, Peter Lilley, trade secretary, will also be summoned to give evidence.

The MPs decided the outline programme for their revived enquiry into exports to Iraq yesterday, focusing in the coming months on the exporting firms named by the trade department during the summer recess.

Two firms involved in building the alleged Iraqi supergun, Walter Somers and Sheffield Forgemasters, and officials from Customs and Excise, which seized parts of the equipment, will be questioned by the all-party committee before the end of the year. A list of licensed exports, including depleted uranium, radar equipment and fast assault craft, was given to the committee by the department in July.

Mr Lilley dismissed the ensuing dispute as a "fuss about nothing". However, later he issued a full list of the licensed firms and dates.

The detailed information confirmed that Britain exported defence equipment to Iraq which enhanced Saddam Hussein's military capability but did not appear to contribute to the build-up of nuclear or chemical weapons.

Confidence 'sinking'

LABOUR launched a bitter attack on government industrial policy last night and claimed that falling company donations to the Tory party were an indication of dwindling confidence.

But Peter Lilley, the trade and industry secretary, accused the Opposition of denigrating Britain. Good news for the country was bad news for Labour, he said.

Opening a Commons debate, Gordon Brown, shadow industry secretary, cited figures showing a decline in investment, output and employment. He spoke of a permanent erosion of manufacturing capability.

Mr Lilley said of Mr Brown: "He glooms on gloom. What makes him genuinely gloomy is any sign of good news." He added: "He is the sort of person who is banned from the local wine bar during happy hour."

Scots regiments feel betrayed, says Whitelaw

By JOHN WINDER

VISCOUNT Whitelaw, the former deputy prime minister, said last night that Scottish regiments felt betrayed and disillusioned by the loss of battalions and amalgamations in the defence reorganisation.

Viscount Whitelaw, once an officer in the Scots Guards, which is losing a battalion, hoped for a rethink during the phasing in of the changes. He was speaking in a defence debate in the House of Lords.

"I hope that there will not be, in the Ministry of Defence, a sort of obstinate determination to cling to the present plans whatever the changes in circumstances may be."

He was cheered on all sides when he said that when it came to the army, there must be anxiety, particularly since so many of Mr King's decisions were being so widely questioned. The new infantry battalions had to be found without overstretching units and there must be no question of robbing Peter to pay Paul.

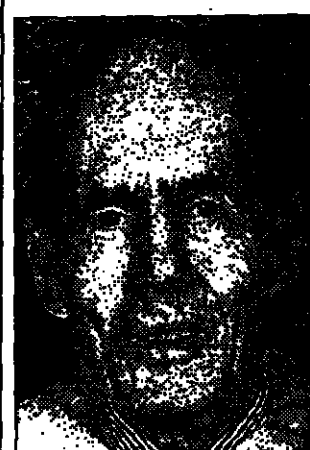
"Those of us who are anxious about the present reductions in infantry battalions may well be wrong, but as there are many far more knowledgeable than me who appear to feel like this, I hope Mr King will be ready, at least, to accept that we may be proved right."

Whatever cynics might say, many of those connected with the Scottish regiments, at all levels, felt betrayed and disillusioned. "If, therefore, in the years immediately ahead there is a good reason to change some of these plans, I do hope it will be taken - for the future of the army will be much improved if the regimental spirit can be fully maintained."

Lord Bramall, former chief of defence staff, said that the final screws on defence cuts were being attributed by the services to Treasury pressure which defence ministers and senior officers had been unable to resist. He said that if ministers continued to deny that, he could easily show that it was so.

Opening the debate, the Earl of Arran, a junior defence minister, said that the decisions the government had taken about the British contribution to Nato had been the principal factor leading to decisions about the most appropriate size of the army for the Nineties.

In a maiden speech, Lord



Lord Cheshire: proposed UN disaster relief force

Cheshire, VC, the wartime bomber ace, said that they should move towards the day when there was a UN disaster relief force or capability.

In a maiden speech, the Duke of Westminster, said that the TA needed proper and sustainable funding for the training and facilities required.

Lord Carver, former chief of the defence staff, said that the government proposals were a sensible plan for the next five years. "It is an interim plan to cover a period of profound changes in Europe. Until we can see where these changes are leading us, it is right for the government to be cautious."

Leading article, page 19



Timeshare action promised

The government hopes that the European Commission will publish a directive on timeshare schemes before Christmas, Edward Leigh, consumer affairs minister, said at question time. When the Trade Descriptions Act will be amended to bring timeshare promotions within its ambit, he said.

He rejected allegations from Labour that the government had been slow to act.

Car exports
Car exports in the first eight months of the year exceeded 400,000, an increase of 82 per cent on the corresponding period last year, Tim Sainsbury, trade minister, said in a written reply.

Bill defeated
A bill to disqualify MPs who are sent to prison for deliberately breaking the law was defeated in the Commons by 104 votes to 91 after being opposed by Dave Nellist, Labour MP for Coventry South East.

New peer
Marshal of the RAF Sir David Craig was introduced in the House of Lords as Lord Craig of Radley just before the annual debate on the defence estimates. He is the retired chief of the defence staff.

Parliament today
Commons (2.30): Questions: Treasury; prime minister. Debate on public accounts committee reports. Lords (3): Debate on the common agricultural policy.

Incisive. Informed. Inimitable.

With everyone talking about developments in science and technology and their impact on the world we live in, how do you know whom to believe?

New Scientist cuts through the hyperbole to sort the facts from the fiction through intelligent articles that are as comprehensive as they are comprehensible.

They'll not only keep you up to date with today's developments, but also help prepare you for the challenges to come.



Just fill out the coupon below and you'll receive a recent issue absolutely free. After that, you'll want your newsagent to order it for you. Indefinitely.

Get on top of tomorrow.

Post to: New Scientist Offer, John Denton Services, Unit 13, Thornham Grove, Stratford E15 1DN.

☐ Please send me a recent issue of New Scientist, free of cost or obligation.

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

Address

Postcode

Please tick

☐ I would like to receive further information about New Scientist.

☐ I do not wish my name to be passed on to other organisations.

Send for a free issue

TMA3

Pay inequality 'costing women £21bn a year'

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

WOMEN are losing £21 billion each year because of pay inequality between the sexes, the Labour party said yesterday.

In an analysis based on government figures, Labour said that a female manual worker's average gross weekly earnings represented 62.9 per cent of those of a similar male worker.

Women from all over the country lobbied Parliament yesterday to protest about the gap between pay for men and for women. Labour said that in government it would introduce a new sex equality act, which would strengthen women's rights to claim equal pay for work of equal value and would allow women working in sex-segregated industries to claim equal pay.

Using data from the employment department's New Earnings Survey, which is now being published for 1991, a report commissioned by Labour from the Low Pay Unit pressure group showed that in a total wages bill of £279.24 billion, men earn £102.2 billion a year more than women.

Of that, Labour's report said that £59.76 billion was

due to the fact that men work longer hours. The other £42.44 billion was directly due to discrimination in areas such as shift payments and job gradings.

The report said that if the labour market treated men and women equally, that amount would be shared between them, producing a total cost from sex bias of £21.22 billion.

Labour also showed that young women start being paid roughly the same as men, but that as they get older they enter a downward spiral in relation to men's earnings until they reach about 50.

Social fund in crisis, insists Meacher

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE fund intended to alleviate acute financial hardship among the poor is collapsing under the weight of spiralling claims triggered by the recession, Labour claimed yesterday from new figures.

Michael Meacher, the Opposition's social security spokesman, said that applications to the social fund had shot up this year, more people were being refused help and loan defaults were rising.

"The social fund is collapsing under the weight of growing poverty caused by the recession and Tory policies", he said. "It is not

meeting needs. Applications for loans are running at an annual rate of nearly two million.

Since 1988, because of cash limits, the number of claimants refused loans to which they are fully entitled has more than doubled. The number refused because they have not the resources to repay a loan has also doubled.

Speaking on the eve of today's Lords debate on the social fund, Mr Meacher said that lack of money was increasingly being cited by officials at benefit offices as a reason for refusing applications.

Senate cost



trader shot dead on mel border

strike threat

flight denial

city talks

peace shuttle

Senators tally electoral cost of Thomas case

SENATOR Robert Graham of Florida thought earlier this year that he might face a Republican challenge next year from General Norman Schwarzkopf, hero of Operation Desert Storm in the Gulf. That threat has temporarily faded, but Senator Graham, a member of the family which owns *The Washington Post*, was not taking any chances with the votes of the women's groups who are financially and politically so strong in the sunshine state.

As feminist lobbies shouted "We'll remember in November!" he cast his vote on Tuesday against confirming Clarence Thomas as a Supreme Court judge. So, too, did Senator Christopher Dodd of Connecticut, who faces a tough election next year. Three other democrats who had earlier been in favour also voted against, with Nevada being an especially happy hunting ground for the liberal lobbyists. Senator Harry Reid, who faces the electorate next year and Richard Bryan both changed their minds. Joseph Lieberman of Connecticut, whose re-election campaign is not until 1994, also switched to vote against Mr Thomas.

Vulnerable men on Capitol Hill have opted to play safe with the voters, writes Peter Stothard from Washington

All of them decided that money and support from liberal pressure groups was worth more than the support of black voters who favoured the Thomas nomination. Or, to put it another way, they reasoned that votes assured now were a more reliable currency than black votes which could be bought later.

As the senators of Washington survey the impact of the past few days on their political futures, certainty is still hard to find. The alliance of liberalism, women and blacks which overcame Robert Bork when he sought confirmation to the Supreme Court four years ago, has been shattered. But the position of the pieces is still unclear. The Democrats have the biggest mess to clear up, but the Republicans have no clear strategy yet for pressing home their advantage.

Eleven Democrats broke with their liberal party line to support Mr Thomas. John Breaux of Louisiana, Richard Shelby of Alabama, Wyche Fowler of Georgia and Ernest Hollings of South Carolina all depend on black votes and all face elections next year. For them the choice between liberal activists and the solidifying black support for Mr Thomas was tough, but even before Anita Hill's allegations of sexual harassment the choice was likely to have been the same.

A more dangerous decision — in favour of the nominee — was made by Charles Robb of Virginia who, after his own personal experience of facing allegations of sexual misconduct, expressed solidarity with Mr Thomas. An easier vote

for him would have been to stick with the liberal majority. Senators David Boren of Oklahoma, Bennett Johnston of Louisiana, Dennis DeConcini of Arizona, J.J. Exon of Nebraska, Alan Dixon of Illinois and Sam Nunn of Georgia took long-term decisions that a vote for Mr Thomas was safer than a vote against.

The Republicans who opposed the nominee, Robert Packwood of Oregon and James Jeffords of Vermont, did so on personal ideological grounds. Both had decided before the Hill allegations. Neither is likely to suffer.

The most threatened Republicans yesterday were those who actively worked to attack Professor Hill. Feminist groups have vowed to topple Senator Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania, who led the interrogation in the judiciary committee and faces an election campaign next year that was already close before the Thomas affair began. Senators Orrin Hatch of Utah and Al Simpson of Wyoming have time, if they were at all worried, for the affair to be forgotten.

The Democrats face the problem of any defeated army, that of rallying their forces and explaining why they lost. Senator George Mitchell of Maine, the majority leader in the Senate, never seriously organised the campaign against Mr Thomas despite his sincere support of abortion rights which a conservative court is likely to overturn. He will have some difficulty explaining why he looked at the twisted landscape of sexual and racial politics and sat so feebly on the fence.

The Republicans, however, have to ask themselves how determined they really are to press home their advantage. Their chief problem is availability of serious, well-financed candidates to take on vulnerable Democrats in the Senate.

Democrat rebels hold sway

FROM SUSAN ELLICOTT IN WASHINGTON

THE 52-48 Senate vote on Judge Clarence Thomas's nomination to the Supreme Court fell into two clear partisan blocks, with all but two of the Republicans voting for his confirmation and all but 11 of its Democrats deciding against.

The bulk of the cross-over vote came from conservative Democrats in southern states, where white politicians were especially vulnerable among large black populations to Mr Thomas's charges of racism. "I think it was blatant intimidation," said Robert Byrd, a veteran Democrat senator from West Virginia. "And I'm sorry to say I think it worked."

The votes of members reflected the leanings of public opinion polls in their home areas. Among the dissident Democrats were John Breaux and Bennett Johnston of Louisiana, Wyche Fowler and Sam Nunn of Georgia, Ernest Hollings of South Carolina, Charles Robb of Virginia, Richard Shelby of Alabama, Dennis DeConcini of Arizona, James Exon of Nebraska, David Boren of Oklahoma and Alan Dixon of Illinois. Rejecting party loyalty were Republicans Bob Packwood of Oregon and James Jeffords of Vermont, who both represent liberal-minded constituents.

The White House lost three of 13 Democratic votes expected in Mr Thomas's favour before the sexual harassment charges, but it also gained an important swing from Mr Robb, whose own reputation was under a cloud recently.



Dressing down: Cher, left, is the unlucky winner of the worst dressed women awards bestowed by *Mr Blackwell's Worst 30 Years of Fashion Fiascos*, a book that inducts 10 celebrities into a dubious hall of fame. Roseanne Arnold came second in fashion gadfly Blackwell's list and the Queen came fourth. Blackwell, whose real name is Richard Sylvan Selzer, releases scathing wardrobe reviews every year. The 10 ladies in



his book, with the designer's comments, are: 1. Cher: "From toes to nose, she's the tacky tattoo'd terror of the 20th century. A Bono-fide fashion fiasco of the legendary kind." 2. Roseanne Arnold: "Bare the jokes — Rambler! Rosey looks like an over-the-hill bowling ball in search of an alley." 3. Elizabeth Taylor: "The Cleopatra of Camp in schizophrenic fashions Taylor-made for the Titanic. Today she looks great as Mrs.

Fortensky... but for the past 30 years she's been a reject from Minsky's." 4. The Queen: "God may save the queen — but that prehistoric wardrobe is fit for the Tower." 5. Barbara Streisand: "This schmaltzy Secondhand Rose is simply an evergreen atrocity." 6. Shelley Long: "Dolly Parton." 7. Madonna and Jayne Mansfield (tie); 10. Sinead O'Connor. (AP)



Nunn: long-term decision that a yes vote was safer

Intruder shot dead on Israel border

Jerusalem — A man was shot dead when he tried to infiltrate Israel from Jordan, military sources said. An Israeli patrol spotted the man near the border at around midnight on Tuesday and Israeli and Jordanian soldiers opened fire.

It was not immediately clear who killed him. The body was discovered in no man's land on the western bank of the Yarmuk river. (Reuters)

Oil strike threat

Algiers — Five unions representing thousands of workers in Hassi Messaoud, Algeria's biggest oil field, have threatened to go on strike on Tuesday over variations in pay and allowances. An oilfield source said that production should not be affected. (Reuters)

UN flight denial

New York — Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the United Nations secretary-general, dismissed a claim by Iraq that Israeli planes which overflew its territory used UN helicopter flights as cover. "It is totally false and unjustified," Señor Pérez de Cuéllar said of the allegation. (Reuters)

Security talks

Nicosia — Military chiefs of staff of the six-member Gulf Co-operation Council will meet in Oman on Monday to discuss forming a joint security force. (Reuters)

Baker mission keeps on course

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO AND RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

AFTER a marathon round of talks in Damascus with President Assad, James Baker, the United States Secretary of State, yesterday arrived in Israel having moved closer to his goal of convening the first full scale Arab-Israeli peace conference in Switzerland at the end of this month.

Mr Baker said before leaving for Jerusalem, "We are still on course to hold a peace conference in the month of October." In Washington, it was confirmed that President Bush and President Gorbachev may, as co-hosts, personally attend the ceremonial opening of the conference provisionally scheduled for October 29.

Mr Baker, who was greeted in Jerusalem by scores of angry Jewish settlers demonstrating against his mission, was expected to conclude outstanding details with Israeli and Palestinian leaders in two days of talks. He would then finalise the invitations for the conference when he meets Boris Pankin, his Soviet counterpart, due in Jerusalem today. "If everything is worked out, we would expect invitations to be issued early next week," said one Israeli official.

Yesterday Mr Baker, in talks with Faisal Husseini and Hanan Ashrawi, the Palestinian leaders, was attempting to settle the question of Palesti-

an representation. Palestinian sources in Jerusalem said that up to 20 possible delegates were under consideration by Mr Baker, who has promised Israel that no members of the Palestine Liberation Organisation and no residents of Arab east Jerusalem will be represented.

"It seems that a compromise solution is in the works," said one informed Palestinian. He confirmed that two Palestinian delegations would travel to the conference. One, whose members are acceptable to Israel, will sit in a joint delegation with Jordan at the negotiating table, while the other team, outside the conference room, will instruct them. The compromise, which Israeli officials have not objected to, was expected to be debated in Tunis by the PLO's central council, which is due to give its response today.

Because of the security risk Palestinians in the occupied territories have been barred from entering Jerusalem until Friday. An Israeli military court yesterday sentenced Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, the founder of Hamas, an Islamic group opposed to American peace efforts, to life imprisonment plus 15 years for ordering killings of Palestinians. He was originally charged with killing two Israeli soldiers, but the charge was dropped.

Peace shuttler faces acid test

By CHRISTOPHER WALKER

ON SALE at the shop for James Baker's party at Cairo's Semiramis Hotel this week were bottles of the stomach medicine, Pepto-Bismol — a reminder in lurid pink of the physical as well as political problems that have dogged the American Secretary of State's struggle to convene a Middle East peace conference.

The difficulties were again in evidence in Damascus when talks with President Assad on Tuesday night dragged on for nearly nine hours. They resumed for more than five hours yesterday, involving yet another change in Mr Baker's programme and delaying his arrival in Israel.

Through it all Mr Baker, dapper in well cut suits, has maintained his puckish sense of humour. When forced to pass through the whole press corps on his way to President Mubarak's bathroom on Monday he answered in kind to the earthy double-entendres he

had to endure. He has the loyalty of his staff plus strong backing from President Bush. "That, plus a growing belief that the Nobel peace prize may be within his grasp is what keeps him going," explained one member of the State Department press team.

Although Mr Baker's public image is cold, his advisers say he is avuncular in private and genuinely concerned with the problems such a hectic style of diplomacy imposes, including illnesses and strains on families. On his plane, the suit comes off and he relaxes in a flying jacket with his name embroidered on the front.

Mr Baker has long been regarded with greater suspicion by the Israelis than previous secretaries of state. American journalists who have travelled with him say that the feelings are justified.

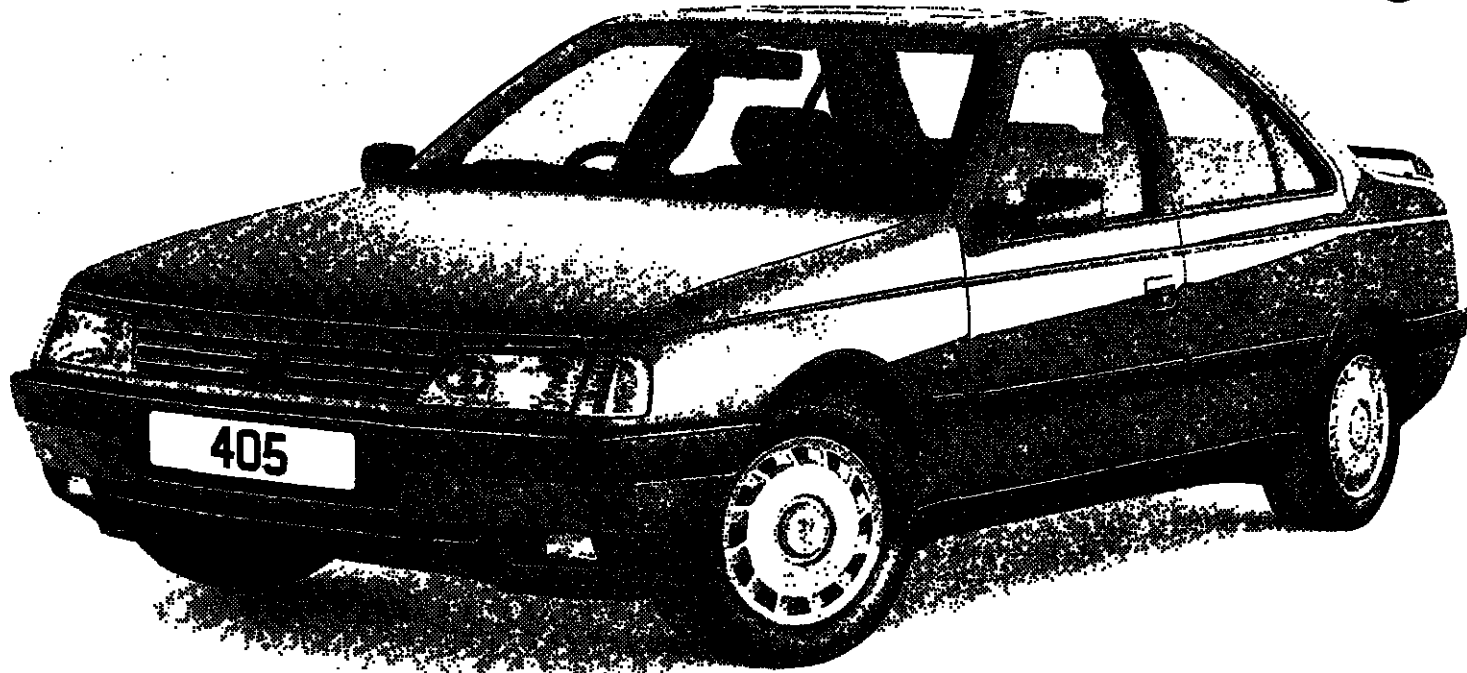
"There is no doubt the attitude of the Israelis has angered him, particularly their

habit of matching his trips with the establishment of new settlements," one senior reporter said. "But the Palestinians have also infuriated him by their refusal to speak straightly and their insistence on withholding agreement about attending any conference until the 59th minute of the 11th hour."

The Washington Post said Mr Baker's past "recalls the board game where the trick is to tilt one ball into a hole without tipping another ball out". In recent days, he has consistently avoided playing up the obvious role the Palestine Liberation Organisation has been playing behind the scenes.

"Whatever happens over the next 48 hours, he has raised expectations in the Arab world by his persistence and attitude," one Arab diplomat said. "I hesitate to think what will happen next if none of these are fulfilled."

For businessmen with more sense than money.



Peugeot 405 Contract Hire & Leasing Special Offer.

405 MODEL	FINANCE LEASE MONTH (\$)	TERMINAL RENTAL (\$)	CONTRACT HIRE MONTH (\$)
Style 1.6 Saloon	206.16	3,643.00	239.57
Style 1.6 Estate	221.03	4,235.00	253.03
GL 1.6 Saloon	225.54	4,449.00	257.05
GLD Turbo Saloon	237.60	5,345.00	269.09
GLD Turbo Estate	251.43	5,959.00	282.07
SRI Saloon	285.94	5,521.00	317.99

Control your costs.

Through leasing or contract hire you don't need to tie up valuable capital in depreciating assets.

You can enhance your cashflow and budget for years ahead.

Nationally Competitive Rates.

You can be sure that Peugeot rates are competitive no matter where you are in the UK.

Great Local Service.

You can rely on our nationwide network of Peugeot dealerships to service and maintain your vehicle wherever you travel in the UK.

If you require further information call the hotline number below or contact your local Peugeot Leasing Dealer.

CONTRACT HIRE HOTLINE 0800 300 706.



Peugeot Contract Hire & Leasing

THE LION GOES FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH.

MONTHLY RENTALS QUOTED FOR A 3 YEAR CONTRACT, 45,000 MILES IN TOTAL, BASED UPON 3 RENTALS IN ADVANCE FOLLOWED BY 35 RENTALS. A TERMINAL RENTAL IS REQUIRED AS SHOWN FOR FINANCE LEASE ONLY ALL RENTALS ARE SUBJECT TO VAT FOR BUSINESS USERS ONLY OFFERS CLOSE 16 DECEMBER 1991

Paris and Bonn push for EC superpower role

FRANCE and Germany yesterday unveiled their most ambitious detailed scheme to turn the European Community into a political and military superpower during the 1990s, including a suggestion that the EC should represent national governments in dealings with the Soviet Union and America.

France and Germany see the community as a global political and military force in the 1990s, George Brock writes from Brussels

The proposals from President Mitterrand of France and Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, were laid out in a letter and draft treaty clauses sent to the Dutch government which is trying to finalise the EC's political and monetary union treaty before the Maastricht summit in eight weeks' time. The two leaders say Europe must take decisions to alter the EC's structure to take greater responsibilities in the fields of security and defence. Among the recommendations, covering foreign and defence policy, are that:

- Fields for "joint action" in foreign policy would include relations with the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe and America. France and Germany say that "joint action" would be binding on national governments and should sometimes be decided by majority vote;
- The EC would commit itself to a defence policy. To achieve this the community would absorb the nine-nation Western European Union, which would move from Paris to Brussels and create a military planning staff;
- The symbolic Franco-Ger-

of state. Dieter Vogel, the Bonn government spokesman, said EC defence is a "long-term prospect". He said the scheme corresponded to the ideas of the American government.

A spokesman for President Mitterrand said foreign and defence policy should be the "hard core" of a new EC political union treaty. He said: "If we had not judged it as such, the chancellor and the president would not have bothered to take up their pens." France, not a full member of Nato, faces great difficulties in persuading its EC partners to loosen their links with America in the alliance. But its negotiators are more confident that they can isolate Britain on the issue of majority voting in foreign policy.

Europe will hear President Bush's reaction to the plans at a Nato summit next month. America has always encouraged greater European defence integration in theory but always reacted warily to any proposal which might exclude US policymakers from European decision-making.

Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, at the Commonwealth summit in Harare, called any idea of overlapping with Nato "useless and dangerous". British officials treat the suggestion that the EC can displace national governments in their dealings with the Soviet Union and America as ludicrous.

Leading article, page 19



Evasive action: European Community observers running for cover yesterday with Croat troops and medical staff as Serb forces opened fire on Nestar. The village in eastern Croatia is on the frontline of the conflict in the breakaway Yugoslav republic

Nato to drop nuclear pledge

From MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT, IN TAORMINA, SICILY

NATO defence ministers are expected for the first time to drop the usual pledge to keep alliance nuclear weapons up to date when they meet in Sicily today. Their silence on this basic tenet of Nato nuclear strategy shows how much has changed in just three weeks.

After President Bush's announcement of nuclear weapons cuts on September 27, the alliance is already committed to withdrawing unilaterally all the short-range Lance tactical

missiles and nuclear-tipped artillery shells from Europe. Only air-launched, freefall bombs will be left and they cannot be modernised in the present political climate.

The question of developing a Nato tactical air-to-surface missile to replace the gravity bomb is so sensitive that ministers will be reluctant to broach it. American sources said it would be discussed, but no reference to replacing freefall bombs is expected in

the communiqué issued after the two-day Nuclear Planning Group meeting.

British officials accept that it will not be possible, or necessary, to discuss a new tactical missile at this stage. Britain and France, whose defence minister does not have a seat at the meeting, are now the odd ones out in the nuclear debate. Britain is, however, committed to buying a tactical nuclear missile for RAF Tornados.

Latest Yugoslav ceasefire seems doomed to fail

From MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW AND ANNE McELVOY IN ZAGREB

THE latest ceasefire agreement between Serbia and Croatia, concluded this time through the mediation of President Gorbachev on Tuesday evening, seemed certain to collapse even before the leaders of the two republics left Moscow yesterday.

Franjo Tudjman, the Croatian president, cancelled a scheduled press conference, allowing Slobodan Milosevic, his Serbian counterpart, to claim at his own press conference that this showed which of the republics was afraid to present its case. Mr Milosevic appeared confident and optimistic, but he offered no new insights or solutions.

Serbia, he said, had always advocated a peaceful solution and had not changed its view. He denied that there was any conflict between Serbia and Croatia as such, rather a conflict "between the Croatian authorities and the Serbian people living in Croatia".

The Serbian president was positive about his meeting with Mr Gorbachev. He described the Soviet president as "understanding the situation much better than others" but did not identify them. He appeared, however, to be referring to the European Community negotiators. He was still more enthusiastic about his talks with Boris Yeltsin, the president of the Russian Federation. These dealt not only with the Yugoslav conflict, but also with future political and economic relations between Serbia and Russia. He said he had invited Mr Yeltsin to visit Serbia and his invitation had been accepted.

Dr Tudjman left Moscow without explaining why he had decided not to talk to the press. The joint communiqué that he signed with Mr Milosevic the previous evening said both leaders favoured an immediate cessation of hostilities, it pledged that delegations from the two republics would open negotiations on all issues of contention within a month, and it asked the Soviet Union, the United States and the EC to help organise and oversee the negotiations.

Despite the Moscow agreement, fighting continued at flashpoints throughout Croatia yesterday. The besieged town of Vukovar came under fierce mortar and artillery fire with one death and several injuries reported. Hopes of the



Milosevic: Croatia "too scared" to present case

EC aid convoy reaching the city are fading.

At Otocac, three guardsmen were reported killed in an artillery attack. The town of Slunj, 30 miles south of Karlovac, is reported to be cut off and running short of food and medical supplies as a result of a large influx of refugees from nearby Titova Korenica.

Mr Yeltsin, the president of Bosnia-Herzegovina, said yesterday that he detected signs of optimism for the future despite the apparent failure of the latest ceasefire (Tim Judah writes).

"This simultaneously talking and fighting is a pull and push process," he said, "but the Moscow agreement is an example of a positive sign and I now expect that the fighting will begin to decline in favour of talks."

Meat van bears grim testimony to conflict

By ANNE McELVOY

AT FIRST, looking into the refrigerated van in Karlovac, it is difficult to recognise the contents as bodies at all: a jumble of limbs, socks, intestines, blackened skin, a yellow stump of leg.

Putrefaction is everywhere. Looking at the scene for more than a few seconds is intolerable, but those few seconds are enough to etch it in the memory for ever.

In the van, which previously did service as a Yugoslav meat transporter, lie four of the 18 corpses delivered to the Karlovac mortuary from the frontline Croatian villages of Vukmanic and Turanj on the other side of the Kupa river, just a mile away. The dead, the Croats say, are victims of a massacre by bands of Serb irregulars.

Mira Lucijanic, the chief pathologist, said that four of the dead had been killed by heavy blows - except that they were killed violently, she cannot say how the others died. Their bodies had been left uncollected so long that their wounds have been all but obliterated by scavenging animals.

The civil war in Yugoslavia is no sanitised, impersonal, modern affair; it is

stavistic, hand-to-hand conflict in which not even the basic, humane courtesy of swift burial is observed.

To reach this charnel scene, it is not necessary to travel to the bloody, remote slaughter fields of eastern Croatia. Karlovac is 30 minutes' drive south of Zagreb, the capital. The war no longer needs to be looked for, it is moving closer of its own volition. Of the nine graveyards in Karlovac, only four can be used for funerals. The others are targeted by snipers.

"We have identified an entire family," Dr Lucijanic said. "The grandmother is holding a child's clothes, but there is no sign of the child." She has examined 40 corpses brought from the surrounding areas in the past month. "I have to be absolutely professional about this job. It is what I was trained for, but I never thought that I would have to look on war crimes. If I thought about them, I could not do it. I must stop my emotions. What good do they do me or these dead people?" But, as she led the way to the mortuary, she winced. "Sometimes, I think I am drowning."

Currys - N°1 for top brand choice

UNBEATABLE DEALS
ON MICROWAVES
LOWEST PRICE EVER



MATSUI
1.0 cu.ft. Touch Control Family Microwave

- 700 watts power output
- Auto weight defrost
- Auto temperature cooking
- Programmable memory cooking

CURRYS PRICE
£129.99

SHARP 'Easychef'
Touch Control Microwave

- 850 watts power output
- Model 5A53. Was £219.99.

CURRYS PRICE
£199.99

SAVE **£20**

MICROWAVES WITH GRILL

MOULINEX

'Quickchef' Microwave

with Grill

- 9 power settings
- 800 watts output/1100 watts grill
- Model 420. Was £179.99.



CURRYS PRICE

£159.99

SAVE **£20**

MOULINEX

0.6 cu.ft. Compact Microwave

- Power 750 watts. Model B5401.

CURRYS PRICE

£169.99

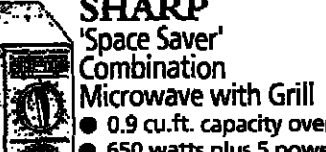
COMBINATION MICROWAVES

SHARP

'Space Saver' Combination

Microwave with Grill

- 0.9 cu.ft. capacity oven
- 650 watts plus 5 power levels. Model 7V10W. Was £269.99.



CURRYS PRICE

£229.99

SAVE **£40**

SHARP

Touch Control Combination

Microwave with Grill

- 0.9 cu.ft. capacity oven. Model 7A50N.

CURRYS PRICE

£299.99

SUPER VALUE

CONVENIENT HIGH STREET

STORES NATIONWIDE

With around 430 high street stores you can be sure that you're never far from Britain's favourite electrical retailer. Who else can offer you the convenience of such a wide range of top brands and expert, helpful advice on your local high street. Ring 081-200 0200 for your nearest store.

0%
INTEREST
PLUS
UP TO
£100 TRADE-IN
ON SELECTED COOKERS
Ask in store for details

CREDASOLARGLO

Slot-in Electric Cooker

- Ceramic hob with 2 fast-heat 'Solarglo' zones
- Self cleaning oven liners
- Full width, double circuit grill
- Fan assisted large oven for perfect baking
- Model 48413/4. Price excluding Trade-in £659.99. £100 TRADE-IN*

TRADE-IN PRICE

£559.99

20% DEPOSIT. 10 DIRECT DEBIT MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £44.80.

CREDASOLARGLO

Electric Freestanding Cooker

- Creda-clean liners in main oven
- Model 49211. Price excluding Trade-in £379.99. £80 TRADE-IN*

TRADE-IN PRICE

£299.99

20% DEPOSIT. 6 DIRECT DEBIT MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £40.

CREDASOLARGLO

Electric Slot-in Cooker

- Ceramic hob with 3 halogen rings
- 'Solarglo' grill
- Self cleaning liners in both ovens
- Model 48317. Price excluding Trade-in £899.99. £100 TRADE-IN*

TRADE-IN PRICE

£799.99

20% DEPOSIT. 10 DIRECT DEBIT MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £64.

CREDASOLARGLO

Electric Freestanding Cooker

- Double oven capacity and flexibility. Model 49511. Price excluding Trade-in £459.99. £100 TRADE-IN*

TRADE-IN PRICE

£359.99

20% DEPOSIT. 6 DIRECT DEBIT MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £40.

BELLING

Electric Slot-in Cooker

- Full width dual mini/maxi grill
- Large main fan oven
- Easy to clean ceramic hob
- Model 600XT. Price excluding Trade-in £719.99. £70 TRADE-IN*

TRADE-IN PRICE

£649.99

20% DEPOSIT. 10 DIRECT DEBIT MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £52.

BELLING

Electric Slot-in Cooker

- 4 radiant rings
- Model 425. Price excluding Trade-in £469.99. £70 TRADE-IN*

TRADE-IN PRICE

£399.99

20% DEPOSIT. 10 DIRECT DEBIT MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £32.

FRITCH

Electric Slot-in Cooker

- 4 ring radiant hob
- Full width grill
- Stay clean panels in main oven
- Model 2587. Was £419.99. SAVE £40

CURRYS PRICE

£379.99

20% DEPOSIT. 10 DIRECT DEBIT MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £30.40.

TRICITY PRESIDENT

Free Standing Electric Cooker

- With interior 'stay-clean' panels
- Model 2558.

TRADE-IN PRICE

£469.99

20% DEPOSIT. 10 DIRECT DEBIT MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £37.60.

INDESIT

Electric Slot-in Cooker

- 4 electric sealed plate hob
- Full width grill for family meals
- Cooker timer and alarm
- Model 5049.

CURRYS PRICE

£259.99

20% DEPOSIT. 6 DIRECT DEBIT MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £34.67.

INDESIT

Dual Fuel Cooker

- 4 gas ring hob
- Model 6408.

TRADE-IN PRICE

£379.99

20% DEPOSIT. 6 DIRECT DEBIT MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF £30.67.

*Trade in your old Cooker. (Ask in store for details)

LATE NIGHT SHOPPING AND FREE PARKING AT SUPERSTORES

At any one of our fabulous Superstores you will find an even bigger range of products to choose from. What's more, over 100 Superstores nationwide offer convenient late-night opening hours to help make the choice easy for you.

Currys
YOU'LL LIKE THE DIFFERENCE

Written quotations from Currys, Dept. MK, 54/56 High Street, Edgware, Middlesex HA8 7EG. Currys are licensed credit brokers.

Glory gives way to gloom as Boris reaches 100 days

FRIENDS and colleagues of Boris Yeltsin, president of the Russian Federation, have organised a charity reception in the Kremlin this evening to mark his first 100 days in the democratically elected post. But the reception is unlikely to lift the cloud of pessimism that has recently descended on the Russian democratic camp.

Although he is still loved and trusted by the Russian public, Mr Yeltsin has been unable to capitalise on the popularity he won when he led the resistance against the August coup which attempted to topple President Gorbachev. His administration is riven with conflicts of personality and principle. Many of his policies lack definition and, where they have been defined, he has been either unable to execute them or has laid himself open to charges of running a dictatorship.

Whatever the justice of these charges, the Yeltsin camp's public relations effort has been a disaster, a fact recognised even by his staunchest supporters. On Tuesday night, Russian television, often regarded as a Yeltsin mouthpiece, began its main evening news with a gloomy survey of the Russian administration which argued that his government and the Russian Federation was falling to pieces.

Russian officials and Mr Yeltsin himself have tried hard since the beginning of the week to counter the impression of drift in his administration. He has met the Japanese foreign minister and the Serbian and Croat leaders. He talked to reporters after a meeting of his state council on Tuesday and outlined a series of steps he intended taking in the

Boris Yeltsin, plagued by conflicts in his government and Russia, is looking less and less likely to stay long in office, Mary Dejevsky writes from Moscow

coming days. These included the appointment of a prime minister to replace Ivan Silayev, who moved permanently last month to the interim body overseeing the central Soviet economy, a plan for Russia to take over most of the Soviet Union's gold and precious metal reserves, the closure of bank accounts of all central ministries which have become redundant, and a government reshuffle to purge

remaining conservatives. He also hinted at the possible introduction of a separate Russian currency.

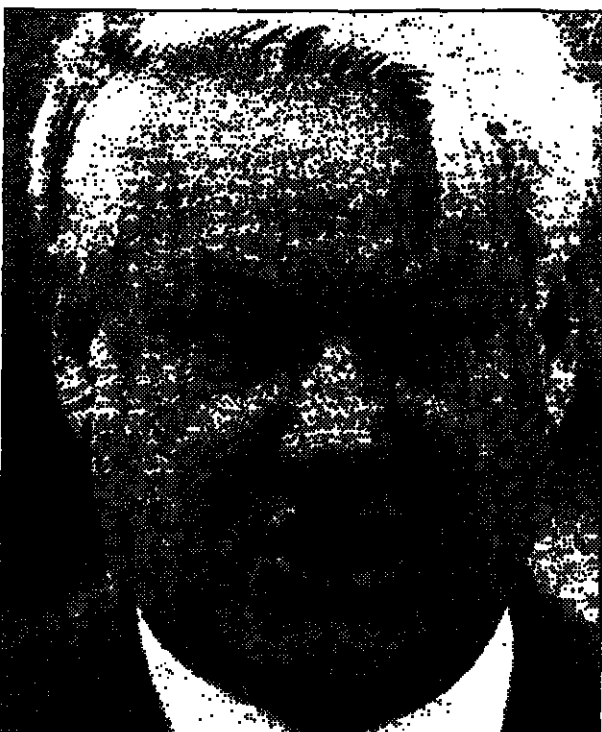
By yesterday, however, all these proposals were still no more than pie in the sky. Two other measures that Mr Yeltsin could have taken to improve his position also appear to have been delayed. Local elections that would have strengthened the control of Yeltsin supporters in the provinces have been

postponed on the ground that, in the present economic circumstances, another political campaign is too much of a luxury. Consideration of the new Russian constitution also appears to have been shelved for at least the third time in a year.

Mr Yeltsin is left trying to govern an increasingly ungovernable republic with only the old constitutional mechanisms. These include a hung parliament, elected more than a year ago, and ministers who are either ill-equipped to take the wider responsibilities that have fallen to them since the coup or politically disinclined to implement the deregulatory reforms Mr Yeltsin wants.

His moves to strengthen the lines of administrative responsibility, which included the appointment of provincial governors accountable to him, have led to talk of dictatorship. The governors, many of whom were elected regional leaders, anyway, cannot be subjected to popular election, as Mr Yeltsin says he intends, until the new constitution, or at least new laws, are in place. Yet the Russian parliament in its present composition is unlikely to approve such laws.

In areas of the federation populated mainly by non-Russians, he faces growing hostility from local leaders and populations worried about the growth of a strong Russia. Having seen the flag-waving and euphoria after the successful defence of the Russian parliament in August, non-Russians are trying to ensure that the Soviet yoke is not replaced by a Russian one. After the first 100 days, Mr Yeltsin's chances of a long stay currently look slim.



Yeltsin: unable to capitalise on the popularity he gained in leading resistance to the August coup

West to press republics on Soviet economic accord

FROM ANATOLE KALETSKY IN BANGKOK

THE leading Western nations plan to exert strong diplomatic and economic pressure on the Soviet republics to try to persuade them to agree a new economic constitution. A campaign to settle the future shape of the Soviet Union emerged yesterday as the main outcome of the negotiations between the Group of Seven and Soviet government representatives held in Bangkok this week.

It also became clear that a key objective of the unprecedented mission by the G7

the republics failed to agree on an economic constitution, there could be no hope for early market reforms in the Soviet Union. He also predicted that the entire country would then descend into chaos and possible violence by next spring.

Mr Lamont was equally explicit about the West's role in a constitutional settlement for the Soviet Union. "Co-operation between the West, the Soviet Union and the republics cannot happen unless there is a settled distribution of powers," he told a press conference shortly before delivering a closely argued and unusually passionate speech on the transformation to capitalism in the Soviet Union, which he described as the most important economic and political development of his lifetime.

"If comprehensive reforms are enacted and the need for additional finance is clearly demonstrated, we will stand ready to help," Mr Lamont said. "We will not be forgiven if we do not respond positively." But the chancellor

also said that comprehensive reform and large-scale aid from the West would be impossible as long as the Soviet Union remained in a constitutional and legal limbo. The West would not try to dictate the terms of a new union treaty, but it would press for a decision between union and fragmentation to be clearly made.

"It is most important that a treaty should be signed. It is less important exactly what is in the treaty. Even if the Soviet Union fragments, it has got to be clear that it is fragmenting," he said. Mr Lamont's words amplified similar remarks made by Mr Brady, who said this week that long-term financial support for the Soviet Union would be linked to the signing and ratification of an economic treaty.

Jacques Attali, the president of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, was even more explicit. "We have to organise the Soviet republics into an economic agreement," he declared.



Yavlinsky: fears violence by spring in Soviet Union

countries to Moscow this month would be to tell the republics' leaders that they must reach an economic agreement as soon as possible.

The new relationship between the G7 and the Soviet Union was emphasised by Grigori Yavlinsky, the Soviet Union's chief economic official, Norman Lamont, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Nicholas Brady, the American treasury secretary, in their addresses to the International Monetary Fund annual meeting in Bangkok. Against the background of mounting exasperation about the constitutional chaos in the Soviet Union, all three said that future relations with the West, as well as economic progress within the Soviet republics, would depend on a clear settlement of their present constitutional dispute. Many G7 leaders and officials in Bangkok privately expressed alarm and frustration about the way that the republics appeared to be renegeing on the economic treaty which their representatives initiated only last week.

"The meeting in about two weeks' time in Moscow between the G7 and the highest Soviet officials and the highest officials of the republics will be a really historical event," said Mr Yavlinsky. "It will allow the preparation of a joint strategy with the co-operation of the G7 on constitutional agreement and on the economic way forward."

Mr Yavlinsky added that if

Oslo launches bank collapse enquiry

FROM TONY SAMSTAG IN OSLO

NORWAY'S financial community was licking its wounds yesterday after the collapse of Kreditkassen, the country's second largest bank. The government has announced an official enquiry into the affairs of the bank and the conduct of Kredittilsynet, the Norwegian securities and exchange system, and criminal charges have not been ruled out.

Monday's announcement that the government had taken over the bank in order to protect deposits, but that shares in the bank were now worthless, drove that morning's Nobel peace prize off the front pages here for perhaps the first time in the award's 90-year history. On Tuesday, depositors withdrew more than 400 million kroner (£35 million) in spite of government assurances amid scenes of pandemonium that saw some branch offices running out of cash.

The collapse of Kreditkassen is by far the worst incident in more than five years of mounting losses on lending and guarantees, bankruptcies, and forced mergers throughout the Norwegian banking sector. Losses in that sector totalled more than 40 billion kroner by the end of last year; this year's figures are now

certain to be appalling, reinforcing fears that the entire Norwegian banking system is heading for a crash.

Kreditkassen's solvency vanished into a series of fiscal black holes, many in connection with corrupt building schemes perpetrated by municipal councils. Seven loans, most to highly respected firms in the Oslo area, accounted for one billion kroner of the bank's recent losses.

The bank's 37,000 shareholders stand to lose about two billion kroner. Among the 20 largest shareholders are the Clydesdale Bank, the Royal Bank of Scotland and Midland Bank; but the British investors had been among the heaviest net sellers of shares in recent months.

Economists yesterday seemed to agree that the state had no choice but to keep the bank afloat, at a cost already approaching 10 billion kroner, in order to prevent the whole Norwegian banking system collapsing. Some experts predicted that, whatever the government did, the Kreditkassen collapse was just the beginning of what could be the worst banking crisis in Europe since the second world war, and that it would have far-reaching effects.

Armenia goes to the polls

Yerevan — Armenians voted yesterday in the southern Soviet republic's first presidential election, which is dominated by three issues — independence from Moscow, economic survival and a bloody territorial dispute with Azerbaijan.

Early voting was brisk in the capital, Yerevan, 1,100 miles south of Moscow, where polling stations flew the republic's red, blue and orange flag and a public holiday was declared. "Armenia is firmly resolved to win full political independence," Levon Ter-Petrosyan, the Armenian leader for the past year and favourite for the presidency, said as he voted.

He added that, while Armenia would forge economic links with other Soviet republics, it would not sign President Gorbachev's proposed treaty on political union. Mr Ter-Petrosyan faced five opponents in the ballot. (Reuters)

Tirana crowds burn portraits

Tirana — Albanian demonstrators burned portraits of President Alija and the late dictator, Enver Hoxha, in a huge anti-communist protest in Tirana. Organisers showed film footage of the fall of the Berlin Wall and protesters danced to rock music. "We gathered to condemn dictatorship but we've also got to deal with Ramiz Alia," said Blendi Goxhe, a student leader.

In the ports of Vlore and Durres police and soldiers scuffled earlier with thousands of people attempting to flee the country. Sources said the crowds regrouped. (Reuters)

Cabinet named

Bucharest — Teodor Stolojan, the Romanian prime minister-designate, unveiled a coalition government dominated by independents and giving the opposition Liberals and two small parties their first share of power for half a century. The National Salvation Front, whose leader Petre Roman was ousted as prime minister in riots last month, retained six portfolios in the 21-member cabinet. (Reuters)

Dachas lost

Moscow — Nikolai Trubin, the Soviet prosecutor-general, ordered former top government officials, including three deputy prime ministers, to hand over illegally obtained luxury dachas. Lev Voronin, Aleksandra Biryukova and Igor Belousov were deputies to the former Soviet prime ministers Nikolai Ryzhkov, now retired, and Valentin Pavlov, under arrest for his role in the failed August coup. (Reuters)

The world's best-selling house plant book is 11 years old

The HOUSE PLANT EXPERT Dr D.G. Hessayon

The NEW HOUSE PLANT EXPERT Dr D.G. Hessayon

The world's best-seller — now double the size

Right up-to-date — with double the plants

£5.95

256 pages
full colour throughout
Publication date
14th October

...the NEW edition is bang up-to-date!

Many changes have occurred in both plants and techniques since the multi-million selling House Plant Expert was first published. Dr Hessayon has now produced an updated edition for the 90's. It is double the size (256 pages) and also describes and illustrates scores and scores of new varieties. There are hundreds of photographs as well as the popular Expert thumbnail drawings and a new section devoted to interior decorating with plants. The NEW House Plant Expert contains everything you will ever need to know on the subject.

Twice the size —
three times the
information



pbi Publications, Britannica House, Waltham Cross, Herts.

Commonwealth given blunt warning on need for democracy

Rights top the Major agenda

From ROBIN OAKLEY IN HARARE

JOHN Major yesterday intensified his drive for "good government" in the Commonwealth by telling the opening meeting of 43 leaders that stifling human rights would lead to economic collapse.

Mr Major, speaking at a colourful opening ceremony in Harare, said that some Commonwealth nations had not practised the principles the organisation was pledged to uphold. He urged them to catch the tide of democracy sweeping the world.

Communism, he said, had been discredited and was being discarded. Government by centrally controlled ideology was unfair, inefficient and ultimately unacceptable. Adding that there must be tolerance of free debate and genuine democracy, Mr Major insisted "that means the rights of our citizens to choose freely who governs them".

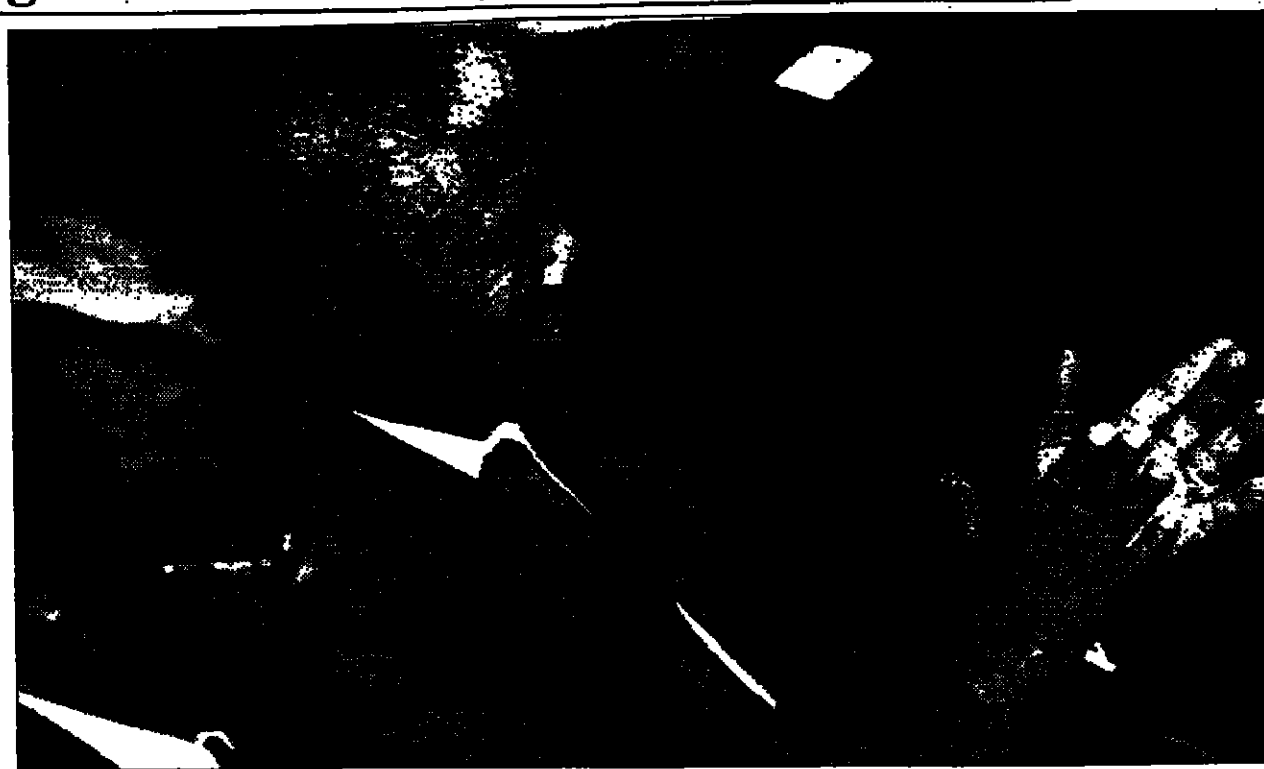
With the Zimbabwean police brass band playing American hoe-downs, and drum majorettes stepping out to *Colonel Bogey*, the Commonwealth meeting opened

like a family party on a grand scale, far more amiable than any in recent memory.

Divisions remain on sanctions against South Africa, but only on the timing of their removal. There is much more talk of helping South Africa through the transition to a non-racial democracy.

Mr Major's crisp speech was warmly applauded, and then accompanied by calls from President Mugabe of Zimbabwe, the conference host, and Chief Emeka Anyaoku, the Commonwealth secretary-general, for efforts to boost democracy. Mr Mugabe said there was no "credible" alternative to dialogue in South Africa, promising: "We stand ready to assist the South Africans to create a peaceful climate conducive to normal political and social life."

After a reference to the 1971 Singapore declaration which talked of peoples' "right to participate by means of free and democratic political processes in framing the society in which they live", Mr Mugabe declared: "We are members of



Observer status: Nelson Mandela applauding during the opening ceremony of the Commonwealth summit in Harare

the Commonwealth in good faith for as long as we continue to uphold the principles we have proclaimed. When we

ourselves, individually and collectively, betray our own principles we cannot proclaim ourselves as champions of human rights, wherever they are being violated. The principle of democracy must be a

pervading one as much for the Commonwealth as for its every member."

Chief Anyaoku welcomed the approaching end of apartheid and paid tribute to the will and courage of President De Klerk as well as Nelson Mandela, the African National Congress leader, who was given a hero's welcome as

an observer at the opening ceremony. He said there was much the Commonwealth could do for its members in respect of the principles of democracy, human rights and the rule of law.

Begum Khalida Zia, the prime minister of Bangladesh, also emphasised the need for greater democracy and called

for an extension of Commonwealth efforts in assisting electoral processes.

In his speech, Mr Major emphasised that the standards of democracy to be met were universal. "When the Commonwealth discusses those standards the debate is... part of all the membership consulting."

CONFERENCE NOTEBOOK by Jan Raath

Press gang left high and dry

Television coverage of the opening of the Commonwealth summit gave the impression that everything ran like clockwork; for journalists in the press centre adjoining the Harare international conference centre, it was pandemonium.

The indifferent quality of the television monitors meant that it was impossible to take notes on the speeches, and each arrival of an invariably late text triggered a scrum. The hungry had to go without, because no one bothered to supply any food. Expectations for refreshment were not high in the first place, after Tuesday's offering by the women's league of the ruling Zanu (PF) party, of rubbery boiled eggs and elderly potato crisps.

Solace in the bottle was out of the question. The press centre's bar was closed, and anyway it stocked only imported Scotch and a local orange cordial, but no glasses. It is open only at night when it is commandeered by Lieutenant-General Solomon Mujuru, the commander of the Zimbabwe national army.

A guard came near to sabotaging the conference when he went off duty without telling anyone and with the key to the locked entrance which is reserved for heavy vehicles. The queue that waited for an hour outside while a spare key was sought included a technician called in to repair a breakdown of the air conditioning system and a van with cans of diesel for the generator powering Zimbabwe television's mobile broadcast unit.

One incident was described as the fall of a dictator. The Malawian leader, whose full title is *Mkango We Malawi* (the lion of Malawi) and destroyer of the federation, His Excellency the Life President Dr Hastings Kamuzu Banda, alighted from his limousine at the

conference centre entrance, missed a down step on the red carpet and plunged forward, hitting the red plush hard.

He was helped up by President Moi of Kenya, but quickly shook off the supporting arm, and made a point of strutting off unaided. There was no disputing the fact that his nonagenarian frame had taken a knock, and it was obvious that he was mounting the steps on the way out with difficulty after the opening ceremony.

President Kaunda of Zambia, who faces an election in a fortnight in which the results are not at all as predictable as they have been since independence in 1964 and whose son was sentenced to death for murder on Monday, was much less of the flamboyant



figure he has been at previous Commonwealth summits. Through most of the speeches, his head was bowed, his eyes closed and he fidgeted furiously with his white handkerchief, his talisman which some believe has mystical powers. He also appeared to be speaking to himself. Zambia watchers say he has come to Harare to bid farewell to the body of which he has been a leading figure for so long.

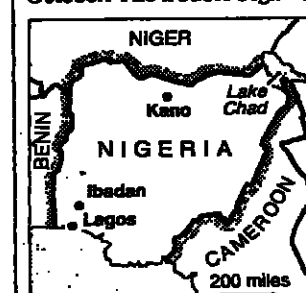
One who is keeping a very low profile is Bob Hawke, the Australian prime minister. The only quote of his circulating at the conference is the "...it" he was observed to mutter after punting at the Royal Harare golf club.

Nigerian riots cut short talks

Lagos — President Babangida of Nigeria cut short his visit to the Commonwealth heads of government meeting in Harare last night to fly home and deal with worsening religious riots (Elizabeth Obadina writes).

Police and army units yesterday patrolled the streets of Kano, in the north, in an effort to contain two days of violence by Muslims and Christians which have left at least eight dead, scores of wounded and thousands of Christian refugees sheltering in police and army barracks.

The rioters appear to be mainly youths, many children under ten years of age, who have been on holiday since mid-August and are not due back at school until late October. The trouble began on



Monday at a peaceful march by Muslims protesting that the German evangelist, Pastor Reinhard Bonnke, was being allowed to preach at a gospel crusade designed to attract thousands, whereas foreign Muslim preachers had been denied entry to Nigeria.

Fines imposed

Johannesburg — Three leading black trade unionists convicted of kidnapping and assaulting a security policeman were fined and given suspended prison terms by a Johannesburg magistrate. The state had called for them to be sent to prison but the magistrate said that special circumstances prevailed in the case. An appeal against conviction is planned.

Massacre case

Pietermaritzburg — Four of seven policemen, all of whom have denied murder charges, admitted they took part in an attack on a funeral wake in which 11 people were gunned down nearly three years ago. The four, claimed they were acting under the orders of Captain Brian Mitchell, who is one of the accused. (AFP)

Britain urges progress on 'green' meeting

Harare — Britain is concerned that preparatory work for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro next summer has run into the sands (Robin Oakley writes).

John Major is urging Commonwealth leaders who share his concern to use the Harare conference to give a boost to the process by outlining what concerns the UN meeting should take up and by giving preliminary shape to agreements which might be signed there.

Mr Major said in Harare yesterday that framework conventions on climatic change and related issues were vital issues.

METOO.



At the last count, there was something in the region of one hundred and ninety Pilsner beers. All of them take their style from the original. Namely, Pilsner Urquell. Yes, other brewers do make beer similar to ours. But none of them make beer the way we do at the famous Pilsner brewery in Czechoslovakia.

We ungle out the most fragrant female hops from the Zatec region of Czechoslovakia. These beautiful blossoms ensure a big, fresh bouquet. For a distinctive maltness, we must upon the finest two-rowed Bohemian barley. (Anything run-of-the-mill just won't do.) We only ever use water from the Pilsner spring. It has a natural alkaline quality that imparts a wonderful softness. Furthermore, our beer is matured for nearly four months in ancient pitch-lined oak vessels. The result is a uniquely hoppy brew with a flowery aroma and classic dry finish. So, may we suggest you always ensure your Pilsner is Pilsner Urquell. After all, who wants to be drinking a me-too, me-three, me-four, or me-one-hundred-and-ninety?

ZANUSSI

YOU COULDN'T ASK FOR A BETTER GUARANTEE

BUT WE'RE GIVING YOU ONE ANYWAY.

ZANUSSI **FREE**
2 YEAR PARTS & LABOUR
GUARANTEE
ON ALL APPLIANCES BOUGHT
BETWEEN 1.10.91 AND 30.11.91

A view to avoiding a kill



Engineers are designing cars with night-sights, like those used on bombers, to guide drivers in bad conditions. Kevin Eason reports

Dozens of lives are lost on Britain's roads at this time of year as drivers struggle to find their way through the fog that can suddenly descend.

Mists force drivers to peer into the gloom, relying on the tail-lights of the vehicles in front to guide them to their destinations, often with disastrous results.

Engineers designing the cars of the not-so-distant future say they can adapt sophisticated night-sights, similar to those used on Tornado bombers in the Gulf war, to guide drivers home even in the worst conditions.

Jaguar already has a car at its Coventry factory with an enhanced vision system using a small camera mounted in front of the rear-view mirror. The system translates heat emissions from car engines, lights and even the human

body into light to make a sharp black and white picture that is clearer than any given by human eyesight on a dark night or in fog.

The picture is displayed on a small screen in the dashboard of an XJ6 saloon. Further development will result in the picture being shown on a "head-up" display, in effect, a small hologram projected on to the windscreen, similar to those in aircraft.

Technology such as the night-sight might seem like science fiction. However, engineers working on Project Prometheus, a pan-European operation that includes leading car companies such as Jaguar, Mercedes-Benz, Ford and General Motors, say it is closer than we think. Some of the equipment could be with us within three years.

Adopting the equipment being developed by Prometheus on a Europe-wide scale

A peek into the not-so-distant future: a camera, top left, mounted near the rear-view mirror, gives an enhanced picture on the in-car screen; above, the view from a windscreen on a stormy night and, right, an improved image shows the two figures in sharper relief

could, the engineers claim, cut road casualties by 30 per cent and congestion by 20 per cent. Many other developments will also make driving safer and easier.

Seven out of ten road accidents are caused by driver error, in good conditions as well as poor visibility and ensuring that the driver is as fit as the car is the aim of the equipment that Ford is developing at its Dunton research centre in Essex.

A tiny dashboard camera watches the driver to count his

or her blink rate and detect head movements to ensure that the driver is awake. That is coupled to a computer measuring the speed and efficiency with which the car is driven.

If the driver is tired or drunk, the computer flashes its warnings to rest, or to stop driving. Although private motorists may not want to be watched by such a camera, many companies may come to favour it to prevent their drivers putting themselves

and their expensive vehicles at risk.

Volvo is developing a version of the aircraft black box for cars so that the results of accidents are stored on its recordings.

Jaguar is developing a sensor system that will keep a car a set distance from the car in

front, at whatever speed they are travelling. The speed "cushion" ensures there are no silly rear-end shunts when the driver decides to change stations on the radio or chat to a passenger.

The benefits of such a system could be enormous, particularly in difficult motor-

way driving. Car companies believe it will be on sale this decade.

Businessmen waste valuable time because of traffic jams and accidents, missing flights and appointments and, as a result, wasting up to £15 billion a year for industry, according to the Confederation

of British Industry. Every motorway accident costs about £500,000, including the provision of emergency services, police time and manning casualty wards, which makes the race towards the technology of the future of vital importance to designers and motorists.

BEATING THE JAMS

OTHER devices are being planned to improve motoring safety. A system for beating traffic jams is being designed, linked with navigation systems, already well-tested and due on the market late next year.

The Philips "Carin" system will be able to beam in on a selected destination, then guide the driver. Although the system will be relatively expensive at first, cost could fall soon to £500 a set — about the price of a good car hi-fi system — making it widely affordable.

At the same time, the driver may not have to worry unduly that if his or her concentration lapses, the consequences will be a disastrous crash.

The government claims many drivers could save time by switching routes when there are jams, but how do drivers know when there are blockages in their usual routes? Radio data systems, which transmit information on conventional radio waves, are now well-advanced.

Prometheus is also asking governments to erect roadside beacons, which will be able to transmit direct to cars the latest traffic and weather reports.

KEVIN EASON

Nobel winners with practical aims

Science judges praise the molecule researchers

The Nobel Prizes for physics and chemistry, each worth \$1 million (about £588,000), yesterday went to pioneers in the fields of liquid crystals and nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy.

Pierre-Gilles de Gennes, of France, won the physics prize for his work in bringing order to disordered systems, including polymers and liquid crystals, and Richard Ernst, of Switzerland, won the chemistry prize for the development of nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy, a technique now used around the world.

Professor de Gennes, of the Superior School of Physics and Chemistry, Paris, made an analysis of disordered systems, which has contributed to the development of liquid crystal displays in calculators, thermometers and television screens.

"Physicists often take pride in dealing with systems that are as simple and 'pure' as possible, but de Gennes' work has shown that even 'untidy' systems can be described in general terms," the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said in the citation. By doing so, he had found parallels between polymer molecules in solution, which tend to form long, spaghetti-like tangles, and the behaviour of superconductors. Similar mathematics could be used to explain both, laying the theoretical foun-



Million-dollar winners: Professors de Gennes, left, and Ernst

dation for the practical application of liquid crystals.

Professor de Gennes, who is 58, said yesterday that all his work was motivated by practicality.

He would use the prize to defend the School of Physics and Chemistry, which faced financial problems because of what was seen as its emphasis on fundamental work.

Professor Ernst, 58, is a pioneer of the technique of nuclear magnetic resonance, used to produce sharp images of organs such as the brain in hospitals, and as a method of structural analysis in chemistry. NMR spectroscopy uses magnetic fields to study the behaviour of the nucleus of the atom. By sensing small changes in that behaviour



when atoms are combined in different ways into molecules, the technique provides a powerful tool for studying molecular structure.

He was not the inventor of NMR imaging, although the method he devised is the one now used in 4,500 hospitals around the world.

Professor Ernst's techniques "revolutionised the use of NMR in biochemistry" according to Professor Laurie Hall, of Cambridge University. By devising a system of displaying the information on two axes — so-called two-dimensional NMR — Professor Ernst had made it possible to show the NMR spectra of important biological molecules such as proteins.

NIGEL HAWKES

Growing advice for the needy

GROWING a carefully selected mixture of trees and crops on the same site can improve their growth and help increase crop yields in the third world.

Finding the plants and trees that make the best neighbours is the aim of a European Community-funded research programme.

Dr Paul Wojtkowski, an agroforester in charge of the project, at Bangor University, in north Wales, says: "Success depends on ensuring that the species involved complement each other, rather

than compete for light, water and nutrients."

Information from test sites in Africa, Latin America and south-east Asia is being fed into computers.

Computer modelling is then used to calculate the optimum distance, and to work out the effects of climate, rainfall and soil nutrients on both crops before they are planted together.

Dr Wojtkowski says: "The project actually concerns persuading third world farmers to revert to

the ancient agricultural techniques of early civilisations. The one-crop approach to farming has not been helpful in the tropics. I am convinced that the only way forward for these countries is to hark back to the past. By so doing, they will be able to feed their people."

The research team is also studying the feasibility of growing cocoa and coffee bushes amid rubber plantations. Cocoa bushes enjoy the shade offered by the rubber trees.

In Brazil, the work is leading to collaboration between spices. The cinnamon tree, an important export earner, has been encouraged to share land with the cardamom bush and cloves.

In Africa, the project is tackling the problem of desertification. Trees can prevent erosion, and the department is investigating ways to blend salt-tolerant wheat species with poplar trees in some of the continent's arid regions.

IOLA SMITH

Life on the radio wave?

NASA, the US space agency, is to make a new search for evidence of intelligent life in outer space. Radio telescopes will seek radio waves in the 1,000 to 3,000 megahertz frequency range that could be produced only by intelligent civilisations.

The scan will concentrate on stars similar to the Sun. A wide-area search at up to 10,000MHz will also be made. Larry Webster, the project manager, says the search will start next year.

Pill kills

A PESTICIDE tablet designed to kill pests in sacks of grain has become a favoured method of committing suicide in rural India. The aluminium-phosphide tablets, which cost 5p, are believed to have poisoned at least 664 people last year. Many of those committing suicide with the tablets, for which there is no antidote, are farmers and their families.

The government has refused to withdraw the tablets, arguing that they are needed to preserve stored grain from harmful insects.

Ringing change

GERMAN scientists have constructed a tree-ring calendar stretching back to 7,938 BC, the longest unbroken record of climatic fluctuations ever compiled.

Reporting in this week's *Nature*, Bernd Becker and colleagues from the university of Stuttgart-Hohenheim say that their tree-ring record shows that the last glaciation ended no later than 10,970 years ago, nearly 1,000 years sooner than had been previously estimated.

Safe phone

A NEW cordless telephone that is proof against eavesdropping has been introduced by the American telecommunications company, Motorola. The phone uses signal-scrambling techniques to prevent people intercepting the calls, which, as in other cordless phones, are sent by radio signal from the base unit to the handset.

Supergroup

A NEW professional structure for materials scientists is likely to be created next January when the Institute of Metals, the Institute of Ceramics and the Plastics and Rubber Institute merge to form an Institute of Materials. The metallurgists have already voted for the merger; the other two institutions vote on November 15.

Space ejectors

An emergency exit from a rocket is dangerous — but possible

Astronauts flying on Hermes, the planned European Space Agency (ESA) space plane, are to have rocket-powered, supersonic ejector seats capable of firing a crew member a kilometre away from the craft during an abortive launch or landing.

Two systems are being proposed for the seats, the first operational ones ever installed in a space vehicle. One, a seat designed for Buran, the Soviet space shuttle, is a development of the system used in the MIG 29. The other, suggested by the Martin-Baker Aircraft Company, of Denham, Middlesex, in conjunction with Aeritalia of Italy, is a development of the MK16A seat, to be installed in the European Fighter Aircraft and the French Rafale.

Brian Miller of Martin-Baker says the company will submit its design to ESA next month and is confident that its system is superior. The Soviet proposal involves a seat which at 250kg is double the weight of the British one and is likely to add to the costs to a launch.

The British proposal is also designed to incorporate a computer-controlled rocket under the seat which, using technology borrowed from air-to-air guided missiles, will modify the seat's trajectory to stabilise the escape flight.

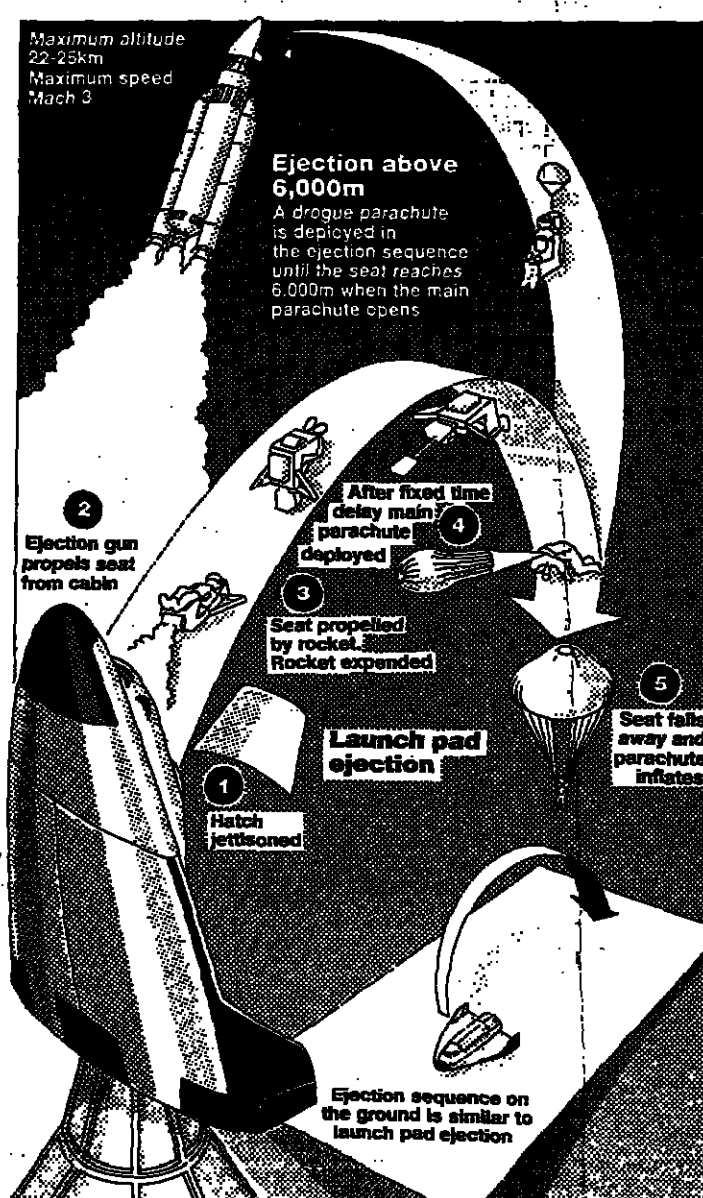
The rocket, which uses three axis gyros to keep pointing in the right direction, is designed to keep firing for about 2.1 seconds, which "is quite a long time to be riding a rocket," says Mr Miller. The Soviet seat, by contrast, is stabilised by its weight rather than by its rocket.

Mr Miller says the design of the system had led to features never before seen on an ejector seat, which have been created to deal with the special conditions of escaping from a space plane flying at up to Mach 3 — three times the speed of sound.

"With normal ejection seats," he says, "only one or two in a thousand will have to eject at the top end of their speed range of Mach 1. We are having to deal with supersonics for the first time."

To slow the seat after ejection, the company examined the possibility of a small parachute known as a hemisflow drogue. The difficulties of testing and gaining meaningful data from such a system in a wind tunnel persuaded the company against such a drogue.

Instead, small biplane-style stabiliser wings will be fitted to the back of the seats, which will not only slow them down but will also



add stability. The wing surfaces lie flat against the seat during normal operations but, on ejection, are slid out by pistons as the astronaut hurtles away from Hermes.

Mr Miller says the seat is designed to be deployed at heights of up to 25km during a Hermes lift-off. Minimum height for a safe escape will be 300m.

During a typical deployment on the launch pad, the Hermes hatch

'Two-point-one seconds is a long time to be riding a rocket'

will be jettisoned while the leg and arm restraints lock and the neck support inflates.

In three-hundredths of a second, the ejection gun is fired, hurling the astronaut at right angles away from the stricken space plane. Just over two-tenths of a second into the ejection, the computer-controlled rocket is ignited, emer-

gency radio beacons are switched on and the astronaut is breathing oxygen from an onboard store.

Safely away from Hermes, the main parachute is fired, the seat harnesses are unlocked and, about 27 seconds later, the crew member should touch down on land or sea, complete with survival kit.

Mr Miller says: "The astronaut has two or three minutes of oxygen left, during which he needs to lift up, his visor and breathe air."

For an ejection after launch, above 6000m, the sequence is similar, but the system also deploys a drogue parachute for part of the time.

Mr Miller says there has been only one other documented case of a supersonic ejection. A pilot is believed to have escaped from an SR71 Blackbird spy plane which was approaching speeds of Mach 3 at a "very high altitude".

He said the greatest threat facing a crewman was likely to be heat friction on exposed parts such as elbows which, Mr Miller said, was an issue of suit, rather than ejector seat, design.

NICK NUTTALL

Sons of Systempro.

Compaq gave birth this week to 3 low-cost versions of their Systempro family. The new Systempro/LT range, at almost half the price of current models, is aimed at the small workstation/server market. Please call Morse for the complete set of family photographs.

MORSE 78 High Holborn, London WC1. 071-631 0644
17 Sheen Lane, Mordlake SW14. 081-876 0404

COMPAG

AUTHORISED DEALER

workgroup/server market.

Please call Morse for the complete set of family photographs.

78 High Holborn, London WC1. 071-631 0644

17 Sheen Lane, Mordlake SW14. 081-876 0404

Flu: hypodermic hype?

Thousands die of influenza every year. Thomson Prentice asks whether Flu Awareness Week will save lives

A sure sign that winter is nigh has landed on the desk of every GP in Britain this week. The circular from the government's chief medical officer, giving recommendations on flu immunisation, is as much a seasonal ritual as turning the clocks back.

So, too, is the stockpiling of millions of doses of flu vaccine, and the launch of events such as Flu Awareness Week, which begins next Monday and is organised by — who else? — the vaccine manufacturers.

The health department said yesterday that the stocks for this winter are more than 25 per cent larger than last year's total of 3,650,000 doses. Kenneth Calman, who took over as the chief medical officer from Sir Donald Acheson this month, says in his letter that more people than ever should be immunised this year.

Is all this really necessary? Is Britain on the brink of a big flu epidemic? Are influenza vaccinations really effective? Probably not.

The British have a love-hate relationship with flu. We love to complain that we have caught it. We use it to justify time off work. And we hate it, because when we get the real thing we feel horrible.

Most of all, we are reluctant to take it seriously — at least until it strikes us. We are loath to heed advice on prevention, preferring to reach at the last minute for a hot toddy or dash to the chemist's counter for a lemon-flavoured remedy.

The health department, meanwhile, has a love-hate affair with the flu vaccine makers. It needs the vaccine for the elderly and vulnerable, but it does not have great faith in its protectiveness. It sometimes has to beg for more, as when supplies ran out in the last epidemic, but suspects the industry drums up trade with the odd bit of scaremongering.

The jibe among some health department officials is that the vaccine makers have put the hype into hypodermic. To which Sandy Macnair, the medical adviser of the Influenza Monitoring and Information Bureau (funded by the manufacturers), retorts: "The department's advisers are a bunch of academic greybeards." What is not in dispute is that flu can be a killer, and when given the chance, a mass murderer. During a typical British winter, between 2,500 and 8,000 flu deaths occur. According to the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys, flu killed 26,000 people during the last big epidemic, the worst for 15 years, in the winter of 1989/90. More than 80 per cent of the victims were more than 65 years old, but children and young adults died, too.

Flu is caused by viruses much more potent than those which provoke the common cold. They enter through the nose and mouth, invading cells and reproducing. They damage the immune system and lead to symptoms such as fevers, headaches, aching limbs and backs, weak muscles, coughs and runny noses. If influenza spreads to the lungs, it can cause viral pneumonia and may lead to a secondary, bacterial pneumonia. With bronchitis, these pneumonias are the commonest causes of flu-related death, particularly in the elderly, but also among apparently healthy young adults who have an underlying condition or weakened immune system.

In 1989/90 the health department's vaccine stocks of three million doses were exhausted before the epidemic reached its peak, and another 180,000 doses had to be imported quickly from France and The Netherlands.

Some hospitals lost a quarter of

Stay fighting fit this winter

Flu is preventable so employ a little self-defence this winter



Punchlines: posters such as this warning the public to take precautions against flu are being sent to GPs' surgeries

their nurses to the infection, and turned away all but the most urgent cases. The Royal College of Nursing demanded that immunisation be offered free to its 285,000 members, and Sir Donald set up an enquiry into government policy on immunisation and prevention of outbreaks.

The enquiry concluded that there was no need to encourage everybody to be immunised, but found that many of the elderly and those with chronic conditions that made them particularly vulnerable to flu were not being vaccinated. Deaths could have been cut, for example, by immunising the elderly in nursing homes and other residential accommodation.

The result is that this year there will be more vaccine available — four and a half million doses, costing the health department about £23 million, or just over £5 per injection — but, paradoxically, there should be less need for it.

"We tend to vaccinate people in the winter after a bad epidemic, having learnt the lesson a bit late," Dr Macnair says. "The level of immunity in the general population now is still quite high, and the number of deaths from flu this winter should be fairly small — perhaps a few thousand."

Nevertheless, Dr Calman is pushing GPs to vaccinate larger numbers of those most at risk. In his letter, he says that immunisation is strongly recommended for patients of all ages if they have chronic respiratory disease, including asthma, chronic heart disease, chronic renal failure, diabetes, or immunosuppression due to illnesses

(including Aids) or medical treatment. Greater efforts should be made to reach these priority groups, he says. Mr Calman also provides some advice that dis pleases the vaccine manufacturers. He says the vaccine gives about 70 per cent protection against infection, and in the elderly, probably even less.

Vaccines against flu are produced in Britain by four companies, Evans, Merieux UK, Duphar and Servier. The composition of the vaccines changes every year, depending on the strains of influenza virus most likely to be prevalent. The formulation is calculated on the basis of information collected by the World Health Organisation in 100 countries.

There are three types of flu virus. Type A is the most severe and most common, responsible for the biggest epidemics. Type B causes less severe but locally widespread outbreaks, and Type C causes minor outbreaks.

This year's vaccine is a cocktail of two strains of Type A and one of Type B. But despite worldwide monitoring of outbreaks, it is impossible to predict an epidemic.

Because of this uncertainty, the British manufacturers, through the Influenza Monitoring and Information Bureau, prefer to take a gloomy view. As a result, the bureau has been accused in the past of scaremongering. "We have been suspected of mounting a scare every year, but that's a bit unfair," Dr Macnair says. "It's hardly

scaremongering to warn that every winter a few thousand people are likely to be killed by flu when the statistics show this to be true. We feel it's our duty to issue warnings, particularly to the high-risk groups for whom immunisation is recommended by the health department."

Both the bureau and the department were guilty of under-estimating the impact of the epidemic two years ago, he says. "If the government had been more emphatic in its advice about vaccination, there would have been fewer deaths. We were complacent, too. We didn't think it would be as bad as it turned out to be."

"The lesson is that we should expect an epidemic every winter. Since we have no means of predicting how severe it is going to be, or when it will occur, we should expect the worst and vaccinate as many of those who are at risk as possible."

Dr Calman's current advice to GPs is that the ideal time for immunisation is late October and early November. There is rarely much flu in Britain before the end of November, but it takes up to 14 days for the vaccine to produce enough antibodies to confer protection. Immunity should last through the winter.

What about those of us who are not deemed at high risk? "The best possible immunity is to have a mild dose of flu that will fend off a worse attack for the rest of the winter," says a health department spokesman. "The trouble is, you can't get a mild dose on request."

MEDICAL BRIEFING Dr Thomas Stuttford

Not tonight, doctor

IN SHEFFIELD, asking for a sick note used to be the prerogative of the manual worker. Now, however, it seems that it is not Andy Capp, but Mrs Capp, who wants a note from her doctor, not to be excused from her household tasks but only from the exertions of the marital bed. It is reported that Dr Paula Nicholson, a medical psychologist in Sheffield, has found that an increasing number of women are asking GPs to sign them off sex. The psychologist apparently feels that men, by failing to understand the sexual needs of modern women, leave them depressed. Unlike Dr Nicholson, others might be led into confusing cause and effect. Loss of libido, sexual enthusiasm, is an almost invariable symptom of depression in both sexes; it is therefore possible that some Sheffield wives may be rejecting sex because they are depressed, and not that they become depressed by their husband's lack of imagination. Any patient who complains



of loss of libido should also be questioned about insomnia, loss of appetite, weight loss, feelings of hopelessness and worthlessness, diurnal variation (morning pessimism followed by relative optimism in the evening) and a lack of enthusiasm for life in general, as well as sex in particular.

It would be tragic if patients who had consulted their doctors with one of the common symptoms of depression were assumed to be suffering solely from boredom with their

partner's sexual technique and hence were deprived of modern anti-depressant treatment. This includes the SHT re-up-date inhibitors Prozac and Serenat. Loss of libido can also be a symptom of many physical diseases, including diabetes and hypothyroidism. It may also afflict women at various times, premenstrually, after childbirth, when lactating, and Ms Greer notwithstanding, the menopause; problems which all respond to appropriate specific treatment.

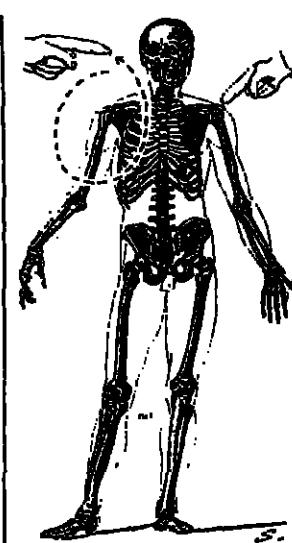
Focus on magic eye

FORTY years ago, Oxford undergraduates were set a weekly problem by the professor of anatomy who would describe a patient's neurological symptoms and then expect the students to deduce from these the site in the nervous system where the trouble lay.

Later in their career post-mortem studies demonstrated that even great neurologists were sometimes wrong. Physicians still plot a patient's neurological deficit: they gauge muscle strength, test sight, hearing and smell, wield their reflex hammers and prick the patient with needles or stroke them with cotton wool, but at the end of the examination it is now rare to hear one make a firm diagnosis.

No longer is it necessary to wait for the operating theatre before having suspicions confirmed, for an all-seeing magic eye, a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scanner, is able to discriminate between normal and abnormal brain and spinal cord tissue. This can display the anatomy of the central nervous system with startling definition on to a screen, from where, with a laser camera, it can be transferred to film.

This week Princess Margaret opened London's latest MRI scanner at the London Clinic, which has



been installed to complement the existing computer tomography (CT) scanners. These two instruments are complementary. The CT scanner is still the first line of investigation in many circumstances. Patients undergoing MRI do not suffer from any radiation, because the scanner uses magnetism and radio frequency. As a diagnostic tool it is also magical in displaying joints, in particular the knee, in which split cartilages and torn ligaments become readily visible.

The MRI scanner can also demonstrate precisely where pressure on the spinal cord, or a nerve, is being caused by a prolapsed disk or an arthritic spine; and it is so sensitive that it is able to pick up otherwise undetectable secondary tumors in bone marrow.

All clear at Forte

THE Forte group's Heritage hotels, once ancient hostels where diners might have expected to eat in an atmosphere made hazy by pipe-smoking locals, have changed. This week, the company banned smoking in the dining rooms and increased the number of non-smoking bedrooms. Its decision coincides with the submission by Action Asthma to the health department, whose consultative document "For Health of the Nation" invited other opinions. One of the seven points raised by Action Asthma, all of which are designed to improve the diagnosis and treatment of the condition, is the problem faced by 57 per cent of asthmatics in a tobacco-smoky atmosphere. Now these patients may be able to enjoy their steak at the Old White Hart without wheezing.



EXPORTING TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA, HUNGARY AND POLAND

To take advantage of the growing market for health services in East Central Europe you need to be fully informed. At the Department of Health's November conference you'll find

representatives from Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland outlining their Health Service requirements. With legal and financial advice available on the ins and outs of exporting products and services, this conference will provide all the information you need. So if Health Services are your business, come to Birmingham on November 25 and 26 and meet the experts.

KEEP YOUR FINGER ON THE PULSE

For further details either fill in the form below and return it to: East Central Europe Purchasing Health Services, 51 Chalton Street, London NW1 1HY or telephone 071-388 9444.

Name _____
Position _____
Company _____
Address _____
Postcode _____ Telephone _____

reading by touch

Mum is blind. But she and Sophie can read a bed-time story together with the help of picture-books printed in Braille as well as in ordinary type.



This is just one example of the service provided by the National Library for the Blind. A large lending library, it also produces hundreds of books in Braille every year, from best-sellers to books of reference and the classics.

Blind readers depend so much on us. Please help us to go on being their lifeline, with your subscription, donation or bequest.

National Library for the Blind
Huron, Her Majesty the Queen
17 Southampton Place, London WC1A 2EH
Charity 213212

To: The National Library for the Blind, 17 Southampton Place, London WC1A 2EH

Please send me further details of your work ☐

I enclose my donation of £

Name _____

Address _____

Many people incorrectly refer to colds as flu, but true influenza is more sudden and severe, producing a high fever with a sensation of feeling cold and sweaty, headaches, aching muscles, weakness, loss of appetite and coughs.

GPs say there is no sure way of avoiding flu. They advise avoiding close contact with infected people and not sharing drinks, food or eating implements. Smoking is also thought to increase the likelihood and severity of infection by reducing the effectiveness of the mucus and cilia that normally trap dust and microbes and keep them out of the lungs.

Once flu takes a grip GPs recommend resting in bed and drinking plenty of liquids to replace fluids lost by sweating. Taking preparations containing paracetamol or aspirin every few hours (usually a maximum of eight in 24 hours) will help to reduce fever and relieve aches and pains. Although commonly used as a treatment for colds, there is no evidence that vast quantities of Vitamin C help contain the worst symptoms of influenza.

A prescribed anti-viral drug, amantadine, can reduce the severity and duration of Type A infection if taken before symptoms appear but usually is prescribed only to the elderly, or people with illnesses that will put them at serious risk if they catch



Flu: how do you fight it?

Influenza. Antibiotics are ineffective against viruses but doctors will prescribe them to prevent complications such as pneumonia. Healthy people should recover from influenza without medical assistance within a week.

In Britain there are no over-the-counter remedies specifically for flu but several cold remedies are popular for flu-like conditions. Boots supplies a range of cures, ranging from Lemsip for aches and pains, to Benylin for sore throats and Boots decongestant tablets.

Traditional remedies are less expensive, though not necessarily pleasant. Garlic can be either chewed in cloves or taken in infusions. It is meant to soothe sore throats, ease muscle pain, bring down fever and fight infection.

Practitioners of alternative

medicine suggest that if you stay at home and choose the right remedies you can stave off the worst of flu. In the self-help category of herbal medicines, hot ginger and cinnamon — or even cayenne pepper — teas are recommended to increase the circulation and warmth at the onset of flu. Infusions of elderflower, yarrow and peppermint are said to be effective at regulating the temperature, and two or three cups of arrowroot may improve the appetite during convalescence.

The British Homoeopathic Association recommends a course of baptisia (a remedy made from wild indigo) for gastric symptoms and exhaustion, eupatorium (made from boneset and thoroughwort) for the worst of the flu, and gelsemium (made from yellow jasmine root) for flushes and headaches.

Dr Cecil Chen, a council member of the British Acupuncture Association, recommends going to an acupuncturist if you do not want to catch flu from family or colleagues. "By strengthening the immune system, we can help people get through the winter," he says. "If someone already has flu, acupuncture cannot cure it but it can help give them extra energy to cope."

ALICE THOMSON

Secker & Warburg

Women in the band

MILITARY history will be made tomorrow on the stage of the Free Trade Hall, Manchester. For the first time ever, women are being admitted into an all-male British military band. Seven female musicians who recently joined the RAF Central Band will be making their debuts in a concert bringing together all 200 musicians in the RAF's four UK-based bands. "Good to see the Royal Air Force again taking the lead," remarks Air Chief Marshal Sir Jock Kennedy, of the RAF's decision to break centuries of soldierly taboo and allow women to go where the drumsticks fly.

Back on stage

INGMAR Bergman is working on what will be only his third opera production, following a 1961 *Rake's Progress* that won Stravinsky's approval and the 1974 film version of *The Magic Flute*. This time the piece is new: a setting of the *Bacchae* of Euripides by the Swedish composer Daniel Börtz, involving a large cast of singers, actors and dancers. After its winter performances in Stockholm, it will be recorded for television.



Bergman: to stage a Swedish opera

Last chance...

SOON to start recording their second album, The Black Crows wind up a two-year stretch of touring with dates at Royal Concert Hall, Nottingham (0602 482626) tonight, and the Hammer-smith Odeon, London W6 (081-748 4081) tomorrow and Saturday. Having revived the working practices of classic Seventies' bands such as The Faces and Bad Company, while touring a little mild controversy along the way, the rebellious rockers have been rewarded with sales now in excess of three million for their aptly-titled 1989 debut album, *Shake Your Money Maker*.

ARTS REVIEWS

Theatre, rock and television
Page 22

CINEMA: NEW RELEASES

Crowning glory for the British king

Geoff Brown reviews Derek Jarman's magnificent *Edward II*, *City Slickers*, *Doc Hollywood* and *Chattahoochee*

Imagine a day's prop list for Derek Jarman's *Edward II* (18, Curzon West End, Gate). Duffle coat, throne, riot shields, altar, soft-drinks cans, balacava hoods, pyjamas. Not for Jarman the blinding deluge of Renaissance finery in Greenaway's *Prospero's Books*, or the dull parade of Kenneth Branagh's *Henry V*, styled in off-the-peg Tudor. Alone among these recent films of Eng. Lit. landmarks, Jarman yanks his chosen text into the modern world, rooting Marlowe's play in a malevolent society of conspicuous consumption, street riots and anti-gay legislation. Through the miracle of cinema, two sensibilities and centuries — Jarman's and Marlowe's — become wondrously fused.

Jarman's imagination always sets his films alight, but no feature before *Edward II* has carried quite so much punch. Its predecessors — *The Love of England* and *The Garden* — presented a jostling carnival of apocalypse, poetry, and private thoughts. But Marlowe's play provides a stout narrative peg for the director's concern with sex, power, death and repression. Edward II, newly-appointed Plantagenet king, antagonises Queen Isabella and the nobility by showering love and favours on an uncouth upstart, Gaveston. Aided by Isabella, power-hungry Mortimer galvanises the opposition to restore what they see as the country's dignity, civil war and brutal murder follow.

Visually, *Edward II* leaps out at the audience with its bold designs and anachronistic clothes. Economic necessity suggested Christopher Hobbs's moveable sets of vast stone blocks, yet the shafts of light and imprisoning shade create a dank, brooding atmosphere worth any amount of fancy props. The costumes jolt and amuse, from the aristocracy's pinstripes and two-sets to Isabella's astonishing outfits — culled, it

would seem, from Audrey Hepburn's and Imelda Staunton's cast-offs.

Fine acting adds to the film's uncommon strength. By stamping out theatrical cadences, Steven Waddington (*Edward*), Andrew Tiernan (*Gaveston*) and Tilda Swinton (*Isabella*) minimise Marlowe's fustian and give the lines a

'Violence plays a part: Isabella despatches one poor soul with a ferocious neck bite'

Otherwise the text is re-arranged rather than reworded; it is Jarman's visual imagination, yoked to the skills of his regular collaborators, that bends the play to his will.

History relates (though it could well be myth) that Edward met a hideous end with a strategically placed hot poker. Since the film was made in Hammer's old studios at Bray, Jarman must have been tempted to pile on the horror. Violence plays a part, to be sure: Isabella despatches one poor soul with a ferocious neck bite. Yet there is also humour and tenderness. We expect this from the lovers, dancing in a spotlight to Cole Porter; but Jarman, mellowing perhaps in maturity, treats even the villains with understanding. Bold, passionate and savagely beautiful, this is one of the best British films for some time.

City Slickers (12, Odeon Leicester Square), with Billy Crystal, returns us to Hollywood with a bump, a moo and a "Yi-ha". We start with three

New Jerseyites nursing mid-life crises. To rejuvenate their batteries, the buddies venture on one of those "fulfil your fantasy" holidays, joining a cattle trek from New Mexico to Colorado. Helen Slater comes along for the ride, but essentially this is a man's show: an over-stretched bundle of merry jests and

musty masculine thoughts about friendship. At first writers Lowell Ganz and Babaloo Mandel (who also penned *Parenthood*) make pleasant fun of these greenhorn cowboys. Crystal (the film's executive producer) spouts smart remarks and ingratiating smiles, and Daniel Stern and Bruno Kirby make perfect stooges. The solid backup includes Jack Palance (the trail boss who inconveniently dies), two Long Island dentists, and a pair of ice-cream tycoons wedded to a camcorder.

Once the trek acquires an adorable calf called Norman, however, the film's charm begins to unravel. Crystal's little smile wears thin; Ganz and Mandel press the cuteness button too often; and director Ron Underwood stretches every intimate, soul-baring scene beyond advisable limits. *City Slickers* undoubtedly entertains, but its indulgences need to be lanced.

Ever since Michael Cation-Jones announced his ambition to be Preston Sturges in a kilt, I have waited for this talented director's Highland ring. One scene in *Doc Hollywood* (12,

Cannons Baker Street, Haymarket, Oxford Street), his first all-American film, pays homage to the master's 1941 classic, *Sullivan's Travels*, but the kilt has been replaced by Californian beach wear.

The brains of five writers forged the script, yet their labours only produced a mouse of a comedy, with a plot that might well have seemed fresh 60 years ago. Michael J. Fox, the Mary Pickford of the age, clings desperately to his boyish looks as a smart city doctor waylaid in the sticks en route to a plush L.A. job in plastic surgery. "I'm in the Twilight Zone!" he cracks. Yet the folks of Grady, "Squash capital of the South", wear away the doc's resistance with sweet eccentricities. A pretty spitfire of an ambulance driver (Julie Warner) provides a stronger lure, and the doc's final destination is never in doubt for a second.

Following *Memphis Belle* for David Puttnam, Cation-Jones shifts to the Hollywood mode with ease. Yet the predictability of this cockle-warming comedy gradually sets the teeth on edge. Just when we congratulate the writers for avoiding Billy Crystal's cow, up grunts a pig, equally cute, to keep Fox company. George Hamilton's money-grabbing cosmetic surgeon brightens the final scenes, but by then the film has long succumbed to blandness and timidity.

Mick Jackson, another transplanted British director, is the man at the helm of *Chattahoochee* (15, Odeon Mezzanine); though given the post-production tinkering, it would be unfair to park all the film's deficiencies at his door. A two-hour drama has been shrunk to 97 minutes; in the process, a real-life story about a Korean War hero's fortunes in a nightmarish Florida mental hospital is reduced to near nonsense. When the plot's lacunae allow, Gary Oldman,



Giving Marlowe's lines a modern swing: Steven Waddington as the Plantagenet king

submerged in a Fidel Castro beard, manages a decent sketch of a simple man fighting injustice, but Dennis Hopper, as his prison chum, hardly survives the scissors.

Perhaps *Chattahoochee* would never have amounted to much: by straining so hard for squalor, Jackson intensifies the ponderous clichés of this mental hospital from the far side of hell. Still, nobody has suffered lasting career

damage; since its completion in 1989, Oldman has progressed to *State of Grace*, while Jackson's quick-fire style emerged in *Steve Martin's L.A. Story*. *Chattahoochee* is a film to forgive, and forget.

Few modern tales of woe come any bleaker than Dekalog 5 (18, Renoir), the television version of Kieslowski's *A Short Film About Killing*. Every shot hurts in this devastating analysis of a

The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, at the Festival Hall this weekend, has made a remarkable leap in standards says Richard Morrison

Ten things that the British know about Atlanta, Georgia: *Gone with the Wind*, Ted Turner's omnipresent CNN, Coca-Cola, Martin Luther King, the 1996 Olympics and... well, perhaps ten was too ambitious a target. The quality of Atlanta's Symphony Orchestra is not yet internationally known, perhaps because until recently its orchestra was not of international quality. Recognition is surely about to come. The orchestra, now on a whirlwind 15-city European tour, has made an extraordinary leap in standards and ambitions.

Gone with the wind of change

Money and power helps. Atlanta, the boom city of the Deep South, has plenty of both. For every dollar it gets in public subsidy, the Atlanta Symphony receives \$79 from private and corporate sources — and that adds up to a \$16 million (£9.4 million) budget. An orchestra whose home is the Robert W. Woodruff Arts Center is never likely to forget the power of patronage, because Robert W. Woodruff was the boss of Coca-Cola. Even this European tour demonstrates how an orchestra benefits by having wealthy corporations sitting on its doorstep: much of the \$1.7 million cost is being underwritten by the Atlanta-based Delta Air Lines.

But money alone cannot



Hardworking baton: Atlanta Symphony's Yoel Levi

build a great orchestra. Remember the "Pittsburgh fallacy", named after an orchestra that has vast endowments, one of the world's most expensive conductors, and

musical standards that languish between modest and mediocre. The most vital asset for any orchestra is a conductor who is prepared to be a music director in the true,

time-consuming meaning of the term. Since 1988, Atlanta has had such a figure: the 41-year-old Israeli, Yoel Levi.

"If you want to create something really special, you don't spend your time chasing round the world," says Levi. "I sometimes think that in Europe the music director is more like a principal guest conductor."

When Levi does travel, he has a knack of living dangerously. He was with a Polish orchestra in Cracow when the Chernobyl explosion happened, and conducting the Israel Philharmonic (in which he once played percussion) when Iraq's Scud missiles fell on Tel Aviv. In both cases, he stayed put. "I never cancel engagements," he says simply.

That tenacity is evident in his dealings in Atlanta. Life for the players was undeniably more easy-going before he came. "I work them very hard," admits Levi. "That was a shock to people."

More shocks followed; Levi began restocking the orchestra with bright young things. "I expect a tremendously high level of technique, plus the ability to blend in. The idea is to create a unified colour throughout the orchestra. Sometimes the right person is hard to find, so I am patient. We looked for two years for the right flute player."

Levi is cultivating an emphasis on precision and clarity rather than blaze and bloom.

And if listeners detect that the new Atlanta sound bears a strange similarity to that of the Cleveland Orchestra, its creator will not demur. Levi reveres that illustrious ensemble. It is not surprising, after studying at the Guildhall in London, he spent six years in Cleveland as resident (or assistant) conductor: a period which changed his musical outlook forever.

In London on Sunday the orchestra plays Tchaikovsky and a new piece by its resident composer, Stephen Paulus (best known here for his steamy opera *The Postman Always Rings Twice*). After a decade in America, Levi has learnt how to allay any fears of modern music. "The new work? Oh, very conservative, very colourful, very lovely," he says soothingly.

● The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra plays at the Festival Hall (071-928 3800) on Sunday at 3.15pm.



ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS



Christmas Gifts from the Royal Academy of Arts

The first of a series of plates to be commissioned annually from Members of the Royal Academy and available in a limited edition of 1,000. The 1992 plate is a striking design by Michael Kenny RA. Code No. 52134. Price £34.95.

Free - Catalogue plus 6 Academy postcards.

This is just one of over 140 gifts for adults and children featured in the new Royal Academy Mail Order Gift Catalogue. Many were commissioned from distinguished contemporary artists and most are exclusive to the Academy, so if it's a truly unusual gift you are seeking, look no further. Every free catalogue comes with a gift of six full-colour RA postcards - send the coupon or phone for yours today.

The Royal Academy of Arts, 8 Forge Court, Reading Road, Yarnley, Camberley, GU17 7RN. Registered in England No. 1666333

Please send me a free RA Catalogue and Postcard Pack. TM 510

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Ms

Address

Postcode

PHONE NOW Tel: Royal Academy Enterprises Ltd, 8 Forge Court, 0252 861113 Reading Road, Yarnley, Camberley, GU17 7RN.

Loft Flooring

Medium Density Fibreboard Flooring Panels
Tongue & Groove 48" x 15" x 3/4"

£6.99
pack of 3

OPEN 9AM TO 6PM
Monday to Saturday. Most stores
now open Sundays 9am to 6pm.
PLEASE PHONE 081-200 0200
FOR MORE DETAILS

FREE DELIVERY

Anywhere in Mainland UK,
Northern Ireland, Isle of Wight,
Isle of Man, Jersey and Guernsey.

Prices include VAT. Prices may vary in Northern Ireland and B&Q DEPOT.
Some of our warehouse Departments may not stock the full range of products.
Please phone to check before ordering.



Visual illiteracy

An artless British Library is a travesty, says Richard Cork

Imagine, for one appalling moment, that the creators of the great gothic cathedrals had decided to leave their buildings unadorned. What would Chertsey and its counterparts be like without the carvings, or the stained-glass windows irradiating the shadows within?

The notion of dispensing with such things is barbaric, but the government stands convicted of just such a crime. By abandoning its commitment to contribute to the expected £425,000 cost of a specially commissioned tapestry and sculptures for the new British Library, it is decreeing that art has no place even in the most ambitious new buildings. No wonder that the four external members of the committee formed to select the library's works of art have resigned. They were appointed two years ago by the arts minister himself, Sir Richard Luce, who rightly saw the £450 million building as a showcase for British art. Luce was personally committed to the idea: writing in 1987, he deplored the fact that enrichment of great buildings "was stripped away in the stern functionalism of recent times". We are beginning, he wrote, "to realise just how much we have lost and how unsatisfying and lack-lustre buildings can become".

Unlike many contemporary architects, Colin St John Wilson, who designed the new British Library, has always possessed a lively appetite for painting and sculpture. A distinguished collector of 20th-century art, he was determined from the outset to place appropriate works in carefully chosen sites within the building and on the piazza outside. His first commission, for the western wall of the monumental entrance hall, was a colossal tapestry by R.B. Kitaj. No living painter is more of an obsessive bibliophile, and the tapestry was to be based on one of his most outstanding canvases: *If Not, Not*. It is a complex image: a half-tragic, half-lyrical meditation on a war-ravaged European landscape. Above all, the painting is indebted to Kitaj's fascination with T.S. Eliot's *The Waste Land*, a felicitous literary link with the contents of the building.

Sir Eduardo Paolozzi's arresting bronze statue of Newton was equally apt. Intended to confront visitors immediately inside the main entrance gateway, the heavily muscled figure would have sat on a plinth 12ft above the piazza. Engrossed in momentous calculations, it is openly based on William Blake's celebrated image of Newton plotting the universe with a pair of outsize dividers. But the picture was supposed to be satirical, with Newton shown on the ocean floor, oblivious to the wonders around him. Since Blake frowned on any attempt to reduce the mysteries of the cosmos to mathematical formulae, he and Newton could hardly be more opposed in their visions of the world. The gulf between them attracted Paolozzi, bridging the arts and sciences in one troubling and ambiguous image.

Across the piazza, an amphitheatre is being built for poetry readings and other literary events. Antony Gormley won a competition to provide a series of large granite sculptures behind the seating. Each stone would have been incised with contours based, like much of Gormley's work, on the artist's own body. Luce relishes the contrast between Paolozzi's bronze "where humanity seems to be moving towards the robot", and Gormley's "ageless granite on the point of becoming human".

Far from dispensable baubles, all these works are densely mediated images occupying integral sites within the design. If the government persists with its decision, it will deprive the British Library of essential enrichment, and imply that art has no role to play in the shaping of modern urban life.

Richard Dunn, chief executive of rejected Thames TV, argues that the franchise lottery puts ITV at risk

Television's blind date



Richard Dunn: forced to shed 1,000 jobs

The first and most certain thing to say about Thames Television being outbid in the franchise contest is that one thousand highly skilled and experienced people will lose their jobs. They have worked hard to provide a diverse service of high quality for their viewers, a service rich in entertainment, information and education. Glance at what's on ITV this week and you will see that for London audiences these people are making *Thames News*, *Thames Help*, *Thames Reports*, *Thames Actions*, *The City Programme* and *A Problem Aired*. For the ITV network, they have made children's programmes and the peak-time programmes *Strike it Lucky*, *The Bill*, *Mr Bean*, *Waugh Memorial*, *This is Your Life* and *Minder*.

You do not have to watch all these Thames programmes — and scores of others such as *Wish You Were Here* and *Rumpole* — to know that they give pleasure and enrich the lives of millions of people. I have every reason to be proud of my staff, proud of their track record, proud of their showbusiness, journalistic and educational skills. They have proved in all departments to be a match for the best, and it is tragic

that they are to be made redundant as a result of an award system that has been described as "possibly the most ludicrous in corporate history".

The second thing to say is that many of the most popular programmes on British television are now at risk. Nearly half the British-originated programmes in this Autumn's ITV weekday evening schedule are made by Thames, and they earn nearly half the network's ratings. Some of them may survive on ITV, some may be bought by the BBC, and some may be seen only by those with satellite dishes. Certainly, the experienced team of television journalists who produce *This Week* will be broken up after 35 years of current affairs reporting of the highest standard, as will many of our other specialised teams. The trained and talented staff who enabled Thames to produce for ITV big events like royal weddings, the Telethon, and the Rugby World Cup will be broken up as well. Other fine companies have

suffered the same summary "fate" after a five-month wait during which not one conversation with the ITC has taken place about our applications, and no account has been taken of our records.

The original objective of the ITV auction was to put downward pressure on costs. When the Pessack Committee reported in 1986, this was a legitimate aim, but by the time the Broadcasting Bill was before Parliament in 1990, overmanaging and restrictive practices had been all but eliminated.

The government wanted an objective and transparent method of allocation, yet what it came up with is an almost unintelligible mixture of objective and subjective judgments, with practically no viewer involvement.

The government wanted to establish the market value of ITV licences, but this backfired spectacularly when TVS bid £59.8 million and Central, unopposed, bid £2,000. No reserve cash price for each licence was set.

There was a better way. As the IBA and the ITV Association proposed, bidders must run a federal system with low bidders; a new system of central scheduling and commissioning must be agreed within three months; the boisterous new will dispute with the experienced old; the old regulated power blocs will be replaced by less accountable concentrations of power, and the separation of production from responsibility for managing the schedule will affect the attainment of excellence.

For Thames, there are now new money terms, in the interests of viewers and shareholders. The public interest, as *The Times* pronounced in a leader, would best have been served "by preferring those companies which have proved they can produce good programmes rather than those that merely make promises".

Regardless of who has won or lost, this selection process has paralysed a first-class network, brought at least three years of profound uncertainty, and demoralised an industry for which Britain is world famous. ITV is still very much at risk. High bidders must run a federal system with low bidders; a new system of central scheduling and commissioning must be agreed within three months; the boisterous new will dispute with the experienced old; the old regulated power blocs will be replaced by less accountable concentrations of power, and the separation of production from responsibility for managing the schedule will affect the attainment of excellence.

objectives: to provide the most attractive service for our viewers and advertisers throughout 1992, and to become Britain's leading independent production company from 1993. Already we attract more than a third of our revenue from sources other than advertising, and we will now offer to all channels our current programmes, new productions and popular repeats from our valuable and extensive library.

We will offer resources and facilities to individual producers and other independent production companies. We shall also nurture our investments, and be looking closely at re-entering broadcasting through the Astra satellite system. Channel 5, or, in two years' time, ITV.

Others have often referred to Thames Television as the flagship company. The flagship will soon leave the broadcast fleet to become a major programme producer. Some questions can only be answered in the mid-1990s. Which way will the winds of competition and high Treasury bills now blow the Channel 3 broadcasters? Will building a London programme rights "studio", as we now plan, prove a better bet? Who knows? But this flagship still feels it holds the compass.

Bernard Levin cheers on a case against the government's policies

That merry fellow A.P. Herbert died in 1971, and today in particular I wish he hadn't. A.P., as he was always known, had an enormous number of careers; he was a lawyer, a poet, a novelist, playwright and songwriter, a sailor and an MP, in which last capacity he instituted, by a private member's bill, a reform of the divorce laws, which had not been touched for three-quarters of a century.

I knew him quite well, and once literally brought tears to his eyes by reciting extempore to him one of his longer poems. But today particularly I wish he were here, because yet another of his vocations was the series of delightful mock courtroom battles he wrote under the title of *Misleading Cases*. (Delightful and mock, yes; but very many of them made a sound and significant point about our laws and customs. After his death some of them were dramatised for television.)

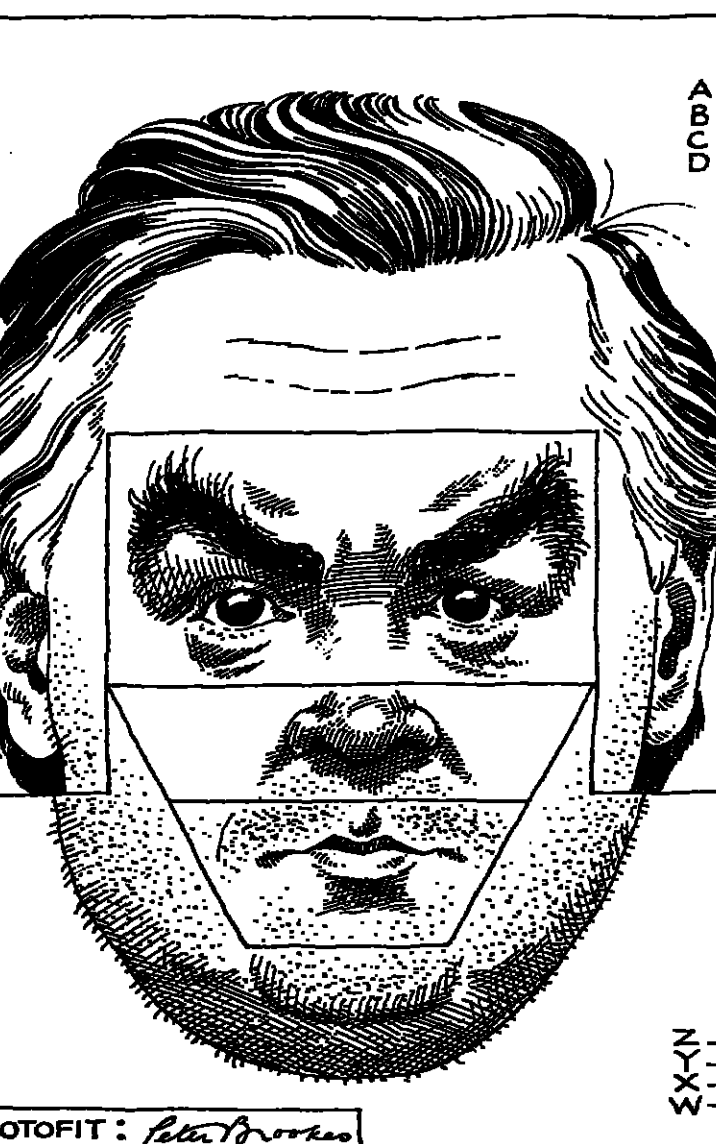
He must be chortling in heaven today, because there is a real lawsuit moving through the law's ponderous stages, which would have made a *Misleading Case* without his needing to touch it, so exactly does it fit the genre. A.P. wrote *Rex v Puddle*, in which a Collector of Taxes was convicted of demanding money with menaces; he wrote *Board of Inland Revenue v Haddock*, in which the defendant wrote his tax-chek on a cow ("Was the cow crossed?" "No, your worship, it was an open cow") and insisted that it was a valid method of payment; and he attempted (in reality, not in print) to prosecute the House of Commons for allowing the sale of alcoholic beverages after the legal hour. But he did not write *Harries v The British Government*.

Mr Harries is an entrepreneur, living in Cardiff, and managing a

wide variety of businesses. He claims that he was doing well, and showing handsome profits, until the present government wrecked the economy and ruined him; no doubt many tradesmen and dealers would make the same complaint, but Mr Harries did more. He went to the High Court and launched an action against the government, demanding a million pounds in compensation. This is not as startling as you might think. If I make and sell honey, and the man next door pours a couple of hundred gallons of cows' urine into my vat, I have a cause of action against him, and if the case is proved, he will certainly have to pay. Why, then, should there be any difference if a businessman has his metaphorical honey ruined with metaphorical urine because of the government's indifference, carelessness or incompetence?

Mr Harries's reply is short and to the point; there should not be any difference. And on that principle he has flung his pebble at Goliath. His pebble is his catalogue of complaints, and I cannot do better than record them in all their wickedness. The government has, to Mr Harries's detriment, been:

- Selling valuable public industries, such as water and the telephone service, at one quarter of their worth.
- Creating a false economy in the 1980s and causing property prices to inflate at a time when Mr



PHOTOFIT: Peter Brown

Harries purchased four properties on mortgage.

- Not keeping proper control over the Bank of England, so that interest rates almost doubled and he had difficulty keeping up payments on his mortgage loans.
- Creating an economic climate in which demand for properties diminished dramatically, so that he was deprived of his collateral

and was unable to borrow more money, pay off creditors or diversify into other business.

- Causing continual and increasing unemployment which deprived him of enough customers with money to use his services.
- Causing him stress owing to the danger of business failure and subsequent "unemployment, penury and destitution".

Mr Harries is not proposing to lay criminal charges against members of the government (although he could find dozens: false pretences, conspiracy to defraud, trading when insolvent, spending clients' money without authorisation — the list is endless). Mr Harries eschews vengeance; he wants only restitution, and I heartily hope he gets it.

His first move has been surprisingly successful: instead of being turned away from the court as a madman, he has been permitted to get his case on its feet; for how long remains to be seen. There was a hurried attempt by the Treasury solicitor to have the action struck out, but the court official in charge rejected the application, saying that the case was "worthy of consideration". Probably, the Attorney-General — he must be useful for something — will find a way to fiddle Mr Harries out of his case. But if not, our hero is determined to finish what he has started.

He may have established a precedent; with luck he may actually win. To be sure, nobody claims that the government ruined the economy deliberately and with malice aforethought; the worst that can be charged against them is that they made terrible mistakes.

But remember my illustration with the honey and the urine; in our law a preventable accident is quite enough for damages; Mr Harries is demanding recompense, and if he can show that (a) the cause of his ruin was the way the government ran the economy and (b) they ran it in a way which they knew, or ought to have known, would be deleterious to all those who depended upon it,

he must get his reward. (A word of advice to Mr Harries: do not specify the quantum of damages you think appropriate. If you have a jury, you will probably get many millions anyway; if a judge, he might give you even more; I presume you know already that you should get Carman as your pleader; he'll have the courtroom a foot deep in tears by the end of the first day.)

But it is the precedent that intrigues me most. Hitherto, there has been only one way for us to call the government to account, which is to turn it out at the next election. But this is obviously an unwieldy and indeed uncertain course; no individual can achieve it alone. There have, it is true, been cases in which some minister has been found to have exceeded his lawful powers or have acted unjustly, and such wrongs have been put right. But hitherto these cases were invariably specific; an exact and measurable wrong has been put exactly and measurably right. Mr Harries is a pioneer. If he wins, we shall be able to belabour the government in general with our complaints in general.

As you would expect of me, I long to go further. I look forward to the day when ministers, brought to book for general rather than particular misdeeds, can be put in prison for a minimum of 25 years, and others at least flogged. (It should not be necessary for me to say that if Mr Harries wins, I shall at once begin a campaign to have the Chancellor hanged.)

The village Hampden of Cathedral Street, Cardiff, has ensured his place in history, whether he wins or loses. We cannot realistically hope for a revolution (though I doubt Hampden expected the momentous consequences of his modest action), but if he wins he will have forged an instrument before which governments will quail, and even if he loses, they will conduct affairs with regular and frequent glances over their shoulders. *Eppur si muove*.



...and moreover CRAIG BROWN

One of the many delights of writing nonsense in newspapers is that every now and then a free gift arrives through the post. Mrs Kenward, who until a couple of months ago was the doyenne of nonsense-writers with her Jennifer's Diary column in *Harper's & Queen*, would regularly devote a long paragraph to thanking delightful manufacturers for being so kind as to send her, out of the goodness of their hearts, their splendid products. The delightful manufacturers, delighted that Jennifer should be so delighted — and so publicly delighted at that — would then delight her further by sending her even more delightful products. Result: delight all round.

It is damning testament to my inferior powers of enthusiasm, alas, that manufacturers of scarves, perfumes, beauty products and knitwear have so far avoided me. I suppose I appeal more to what one might call the bottom end of the market.

So nothing could have prepared me for the delight (not too strong a word, I think) with which I greeted my free gift in yesterday's post. Two weeks ago, I wrote in this column about *Top of the Pops*. Hey presto! Yesterday, I received *Persuasion: The Official Newsletter of the Slade International Fan Club*. At last, a major victory over Mrs Kenward.

I feel sure all readers of *The Times* know who, or what, Slade are, or is. Even the most ascetic reader will be able to hum the

tunes of "Coz I Luv You" (Number 1 in October 1971), "Look What You Did" (Number 4 in February 1972) and "Cum on Feel the Noize" (Number 1 in March 1973) and "Skweeze Me Pleeze Me" (Number 1 in June 1973) without reference to their song-sheets. But for those whose memories are a little rusty, I am delighted to recommend a subscription to "Percy", as it is known by its editor, Male.

Let me what your appetites. *Persuasion* opens in a rather more intimate way than regular readers of *The Times* may be used to ("Hi Howya doin'") before announcing, in spelling the group might envy, a new single by Slade. Everyone who has heard it, says Male, "reckons that it is definite TOP 40 material and will put the Boyz back where they should be, chart-bound". The "B" side, too, is "a belting rocker with Nod stuffing the verbs right into your eardrums, great stuff Dave".

The possibility of a return to the charts by Slade is a constant theme of the newsletter, for, as you will remember, Slade's last single to scrape into the Top 100 was the lazily-spelt "Still The Same", which reached Number 73 for two weeks in 1987. As the title of its newsletter implies, the fan club was formed at Slade's nadir: "Slade fans are a very rare breed, like the band themselves, they have stuck together when the chips were down... I wonder how many people reading this remember the glory days when advance sales alone were enough to put the latest Slade release into the top slot", writes Dave Percival in a profile of the average Slade fan.

After some much-requested song-sheets, including the full lyrics to "I'm me, I'm now an' that's ori" (chorus: "We gotta hold tight, yeh / And can't you see they're lettin' us through / We gotta hold tight yeh / And can't you see they're lettin' us through"), etc, there is a Postbag ("The new single is brilliant, Slade back in rockin' form again, if this is not a major hit then there is no justice in the world — Kenny Bell, Newcastle"), followed by a Fan File in which the leading British collector of Slade memorabilia, Mark Richards, reports on a meeting with the leading French collector, Gerard Goyer. Gerard's collection "is without doubt the most complete in the world". The two are pictured performing the traditional Slade sideways thumbs-up while brandishing two Slade album-covers. "Slade were very big in France in the early 70's", says Gerard, "but when their decline started in the late 70's very few people remained loyal to the band. There are still quite a few fans over here but we live far apart."

The enthusiasm is contagious. Will the new single be Slade's first hit in eight years? I agree with Male: "Get yourself off down to the record shop, order a couple of copies and tell a dozen friends." As Mrs Kenward might say, a Slade Number One would be a real delite.

Can faxes save the day in war-torn Zagreb? An international graphics exhibition due to open in November has been left bereft of entries from around the world as communications crumble due to the civil war. But contact by fax



remains unaffected. The call is for graphic designers to fax designs suitable for peace posters and leaflets to help end the fighting in Croatia. May the fax prove mightier than the sword.

He will work for the Prince's Trust, doing press work for the Business in the Community project and the Prince of Wales Business Leaders' Forum in December. "I have always admired Prince Charles," says Byrne. "It is the first job that I have seen for several years which I was interested in."

Only three months ago Byrne was at the centre of a row which led to the resignation of John Underwood, who had succeeded Peter Mandelson as Labour's communications director. Underwood went to Kinnoch with a "him or me" ultimatum, only for the Labour leader to back Byrne, who was one of Mandelson's closest lieutenants. Byrne failed to succeed Mandelson, and never hit it off with Underwood, who did. The move establishes interesting links between the Prince's office and Labour leader Neil Kinnoch. Byrne is engaged to Kinnoch's press secretary, Julie Hall.

Can faxes save the day in war-torn Zagreb? An international graphics exhibition due to open in November has been left bereft of entries from around the world as communications crumble due to the civil war. But contact by fax

with their successful rivals, West-country Television. "We are playing it very square," said John Williams, head of news and current affairs. "We will be fully objective to the last."

The accolade for professionalism, however, must go to TVS. "It's just another story," insisted David Morris Jones, the company's head of news.

Musical mufti

JEANS ruled in the orchestra pit at Covent Garden this week. Musicians eschewed the customary black tie in favour of more casual attire on Tuesday night as a protest against the management.

"The orchestra is taking industrial action in an attempt to improve basic salaries," read a pamphlet handed out in the crush bar by musicians before they rushed to take their seats in the pit for the performance of *Rigoletto*. "We are the only section of the Royal Opera House who have to pay for our tools and clothing." The orchestra calculates that the



total cost of its instruments exceeds £2 million. Covent Garden would only say that negotiations are "in progress". But the audience, invited to show their support by the de-

gree of their applause, appeared more than sympathetic. The ovation was said to be deafening.

Last week the *Diary* reproduced an example of Kenneth Clarke's illegible handwriting. Now the chairman of the governors of a school in Middlessex has received a letter from the education secretary which indicates that his grammar, too, fails to come up to the standards expected under the national curriculum. It is addressed "to all chairmen of governors of LEA and grant-maintained schools".

Post facto?

AMERICA'S Washington Post presses itself on probing investigations into the capital's skulduggery. But this week it had to apologise for an article about Justice Clarence Thomas which brushed aside Anita Hill's allegations of sexual harassment. The writer may have had his own reason: he turned out to be under investigation for similar alleged conduct.

When confronted with this uncomfortable suggestion, the journalist, Juan Williams, said he had written his column before he "had any knowledge of any investigation". And anyway, he went on: "My journalistic ethics and the ethics of the newspaper were never compromised."

Leonard Downie, the paper's executive editor, had to admit to readers that he had "mistakenly failed to inform" Williams's section editor about the enquiry.

A Danish newspaper has imposed a 100-day moratorium on its political coverage. Jan Kjaerlaard, a political reporter with *Ekstra Bladet*, says: "Our readers are bored by parliament because the government doesn't come up with anything original. So we are staying away for the moment." Will British papers follow?



ITV AUCTION FIASCO

Nobody — neither minister nor television company, programme-maker nor viewer — believes that the way the commercial television oligopoly was reformed yesterday was anything other than a fiasco. The prime beneficiaries are a mere handful of private shareholders and the Treasury. That the new structure has at least some of the better features of the old one is largely due to the Independent Television Commission. Making the best of a terrible job, it has led the bull of market forces out of the china shop of British television licensing without too many breakages. The government should never ask such a task of it again.

Just four of the 16 incumbent television franchise-holders were sacrificed to shake up the industry, let in new blood, and warn the others against complacency. In no case does a franchise appear to have been lost simply because more money was bid by a competitor. This negated the central, and silly, principle on which the "auction system" was supposed to work: that the more money a company gave the Treasury, and thus the less money it had left for programme-making, the greater was its entitlement to a franchise. The ITC determined to let what are termed "quality" considerations override financial ones. The discretionary judgment of a panel of the great and good — the very mechanism the government wanted to replace with simple market forces — has thus saved the bacon of the old industry moguls.

Some of the resulting justice is rough. That LWT and Sunrise should have riches showered on them while Thames and TV-am are cast into utter darkness seems cruel. None of the existing franchise-holders was a public-service broadcasting angel. The ITC's susceptibility to "loss leader" programming and lobbying shows how little has changed from the old system. But whether the losers can cry all the way to the courts is doubtful. The Broadcasting Act 1990 was carefully drafted to avoid any such unedifying review.

Nor is the outlook all gloom. Some of the losers may move into satellite and cable, expanding consumer choice there. The

existing franchise-holders have made great strides in slimming down their bloated establishments and in encouraging independent producers. Both the BBC and the commercial companies must now move further in the direction of shared production and programmes "bought in" from independent producers. Two of the four newcomers, Carlton (replacing Thames in the weekday London slot) and Meridian, TV's successor in the south of England, propose to rely heavily on outside production for entertainment and drama while concentrating their in-house output on news and current affairs. These "publisher-contractor" companies operate by commissioning programmes from other producers, in the manner pioneered by Channel 4. This should expand finance available to the independent production sector, the most creative area in British television. Carlton has been an independent producer, involved in such well-acclaimed programmes as *Inspector Morse*. In a reversal of roles, Carlton could make room for Thames to become an independent programme-maker itself. Thames is potentially the largest independent in Europe.

So much, so good. But auctioning terrestrial commercial television was always intended to benefit the Treasury not the television viewer. The result must be fewer resources available for programme-making and thus for competing with the cheap products on offer from the American television industry.

Certainly the ITC has encouraged a trend away from the corporate uniformity of television in the 1970s and 1980s, towards a richer mixture of franchise-holders and independents. With luck it has also paved the way for a greater diversity of non-terrestrial programmes on the nation's screens. But as this year's equally chaotic award of commercial radio franchises showed, Britain is no nearer a coherent broadcasting policy. With the BBC's franchise next in line for renewal, that lacuna must soon be filled.

EUROPEAN POLITICAL ARMY

In the public relations battle over European defence, the French appear to have won the latest bout. Two days after a deceptively effeminate visit to London by Roland Dumas and Pierre Joxe, the French foreign and defence ministers, France and Germany have published a plan for a joint 50,000-man force which they hope will become an embryonic European army of up to 100,000.

The proposals are designed as a basis for the treaty on political union. They are intended to turn the Western European Union into the European Community's defence arm. They have caused as much surprise and pique in London as the recent Anglo-Italian plan, linking the WEU firmly to Nato, caused in Paris. Washington has carefully played the proposal down as one among many in the run-up to Maastricht, but the Pentagon's distaste for any "European pillar" of defence which seemed to count America out is no secret.

The plan is something of a coup for France, coming after many setbacks to its efforts to construct a European defence entity independent of Nato. The Dutch, now holding the presidency, have been fiercely opposed to the idea and the Italians have defected to the British camp. The Germans, anxious to do nothing to prompt a strategic American withdrawal from Europe but also out to reassure France that the Franco-German "couple" was still firmly wedded, were clearly playing on both sides of the net.

President Mitterrand badly needed to regain the initiative. France has been playing its cards clumsily of late. It is in unaccustomed conflict with the European Commission over mergers, industrial policy and Japanese cars. Mitterrand's attempt to upstage the Dutch presidency by inviting EC members to Paris last week to discuss defence backfired. Quarrels with Bonn over Yugoslavia have compounded French sus-

picious that a united Germany is no longer a reliably pliant partner.

At home Mitterrand is increasingly portrayed as a tired leader, preferring the political landscape of the Cold War to the new realities. But he is not the only one who has been beaten by the end of the Cold War. The Gaullist legacy is an anachronism which nobody yet dares quite to disclaim but which inhibits public discussion of conscription, France's role in Nato and the embarrassing military lessons France learned from the Gulf war. Such questions have become mixed with the larger end-of-era dissatisfaction with the government.

Herr Kohl's signature on France's defence proposals is thus symbolically important. German motives are clear: Bonn believes that bowing to the French is the best way of coaxing them back fully into Nato. Germany also may hope to obtain a stronger French commitment to political union, including a common foreign policy and more powers for the European parliament.

Whatever its reservations about monetary union, which are growing, the German government continues to believe passionately in a federal Europe. But it is keeping all options open. Is Germany really willing for decisions on Yugoslavia to be taken by majority vote? Will Bonn risk alienating America on Nato?

The WEU is emerging as the crucial institution in the rival defence plans, with a tug-of-war between Britain and France on how far it can be pulled away from Nato and into a new Community defence structure. Despite the latest Franco-German proposals, the Anglo-Italian plan still seems to command greater EC support. But the latest Franco-German army manoeuvre is a sobering reminder that Britain cannot count on enlisting either against the other on the home stretch to Maastricht.

DEGENERATE ART

Two still-life pastels by a minor Austrian artist of the early 20th century named Adolf Hitler, painted at the ages of 12 and 22, were sold at auction in Yorkshire yesterday for £1,600 and £1,500 respectively. Such a sale is remote from art: the price was determined by the market in Nazi memorabilia. All the same, the thought that Hitler's work should be evaluated not on moral but on purely aesthetic grounds is subversive of several cherished assumptions about the relationship between art and morality. Integrity may be wedded to art, but talent is promiscuous.

The very ordinariness of Hitler's daubs is disconcerting: surely the author of National Socialism must have painted in a Nazi style? Yet they are merely mediocre examples of a genre common at the time. Goebbels, the most faithful lieutenant, wrote an autobiographical novel, *Mein Kampf*, which ranks among the lesser examples of expressionist literature in the early 1920s. Only a handful of genuine artists held Nazi views. The poet Gottfried Benn, the painter Emil Nolde, the conductor Herbert von Karajan all compromised their independence, yet their work during the Third Reich is rightly remembered as among their best.

The modern artform *par excellence*, the cinema, can be no less sinister in its disjunction between grandeur of style and servility of content. Leni Riefenstahl's films for the Nazis still confer undeserved glamour upon the detestable; Eisenstein's epics impress despite their ideological ballast.

Architecture, from the Pyramid of Cheops to the Prince of Wales's projected Pound-

bury townscape at Dorchester, has always had an eminently political function; and yet the integrity of the architect is remarkably difficult for the dictator to subvert. Even if the prince's architectural adviser, Leon Krier, is an authority on Albert Speer's architecture, the influence of Hitler's favourite architect does not taint this anglicised idyll of neoclassicism.

Music, the most abstract of the arts, is often posthumously arraigned before the court of conscience. Did not the cock crow for composers such as Richard Strauss or Hans Pfitzner when they acquiesced in the Nazi ban on Jewish composers such as Mahler or Mendelssohn? Was not Shostakovich compromised by his public self-inculpation at Stalin's behest, despite his private views? Indeed, but these are all supreme masters, whom to censure would be a greater mistake than their own cowardice.

From Nietzsche's dictum that the world could only be justified as an aesthetic phenomenon, to Wittgenstein's revision of ethics as a branch of aesthetics, the view of art as value-free and morally neutral has gained ground this century. But it would be nice to think that artists of the next century will feel compelled neither to make excuses for the world, nor to exclude from consideration the values which make it bearable. At its best, art can seem to be the saving grace bequeathed by an invisible deity to the human race after it had made a muddle of more direct paths to salvation. At its worst, art is... a still-life by Adolf Hitler.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Tunnel firms and 'oath of silence'

From the Chief Executive of Eurotunnel

Sir, In your Business pages, Comment (October 16) urged Eurotunnel to "revoke" an "oath of silence" about the Channel tunnel project to which, it said, the member companies of Transmanche Link (TML), our contractor, are sworn. The facts are as follows:

1. The member companies in TML proposed a confidentiality clause as part of their submission to the British and French governments in 1985. Those TML members then drafted it into their construction contract for Eurotunnel in 1986. It was not imposed on them and it resembles standard clauses in the construction industry.

2. The key clause signed by TML in 1986 after the above process has been 9 (3): "The Contractor ('TML') shall not, without the prior written approval of the Employer ('Eurotunnel')... impart to any publication, journal, newspaper or any radio or television programme, any information relating to the Works."

Your Comment column confirmed we have met our respon-

sibility to shareholders with our half-year report. I confirm again that the member companies of TML are free to meet the same responsibility subject to accuracy. That has been understood, explicitly, between Eurotunnel and those companies all along.

Two further points of information:

1. As always, Eurotunnel's reports to shareholders are considered and approved by its Anglo-French board of directors.
2. With regard to claims, little has changed since the details set out in our prospectus in November 1990. Recent developments were spelled out in our annual report in April and our half-year statement last week. Other material developments are being reported appropriately.

It is clear to me that journalists following this project find that TML spokespersons and "sources close to TML" are very free with adverse comments about Eurotunnel to the media. It seems the alleged "gag" is only pleaded when the question asked is inconvenient to TML or its member companies.

As for comments attributed to TML itself over the past few days, if necessary legal judgment can be given later, to us or our shareholders, whether they are in breach of contract or intended to injure the value of our shareholders' interest in this enterprise.

Yours faithfully,
ALASTAIR MORTON,
Chief Executive,
Eurotunnel,
Victoria Plaza,
111 Buckingham Palace Road, SW1.
October 16.

Croatian heritage

From Mr John Sell and Ms Jane Wade

Sir, More information comes to us from our rural architecture members in Croatia it does seem to us that some Serbians are trying not just to annex large parts of Croatia or even stop at preventing Croatian independence but rather to destroy the Croatian heritage both cultural and natural.

Our concern is, of course, for the people of Yugoslavia but also with an important part of the European heritage. It is unthinkable that the world should be asked to accept the destruction of such beautiful Venetian towns as Dubrovnik, Hvar and Korcula, the timber houses of Pannonia or the fragile natural beauty of the Plitvice lakes. This destruction has now become a European cultural issue. Dubrovnik and the Plitvice lakes are World Heritage sites designated by Unesco.

We call upon people concerned at the destruction of this European heritage to write to Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian president, expressing their dismay at Serbia's irresponsibility.

Yours etc.,

JOHN SELL (Chairman),
JANE WADE (Rapporteur),
Ecovast (Rural Architecture Working Group of the European Council for the Villages and Small Towns),
17 Daleham Mews, NW3.
October 15.

Rolls-Royce rejection

From Lord Caldecote, FENG

Sir, You reported on October 10 (Business) the damage done to Rolls-Royce by British Airways' refusal to buy Rolls-Royce Trent engines for its Boeing 777 fleet, which was largely to blame for All Nippon Airways' decision not to choose Rolls-Royce engines.

ANA's senior vice-president said "it was a shock to us when BA said they would not be using Rolls-Royce". BA's comment simply referred to "the best interests of BA and our shareholders".

In 1964 a merchant banker succeeded the late Sir Matthew Slattery as chairman of British Overseas Airways Corporation, which had placed large orders with British Aircraft Corporation for VC10s and super-VC10s. The new chairman cancelled these orders and ordered instead Boeing 707 aircraft, on the grounds that this was best for BOAC. This decision, incidentally taken on false premises, did immense damage to the British civil aircraft industry from which it has never recovered.

Will we never learn that in the long run what is bad for Britain is bad business?

Yours faithfully,
CALDECOTE,
House of Lords.
October 11.

Rugby rainbow

From Mr J. G. Ackerley

Sir, Although I am not a rugby enthusiast I can well understand the anger felt by Christian, Lady Heskest (letter, October 12) concerning the garish change of strip of the England XV.

Many of us soccer devotees still lament the day when the late Don Revie somehow persuaded other "tasteless vulgarians" to dispense with the classic white and black colours which had graced the England XI for generations.

Yours faithfully,
J. G. ACKERLEY,
4 Haygate Drive, Wellington,
Telford, Shropshire.
October 12.

Sports letters, page 36

An unreal picture of life at Oxford

From Dr Paul M. Hayes

Sir, The intemperate and highly personalised article by Peter Roebuck, "Feeble Keble disgraced by Weston snub" (October 13), will do nothing to assist the prospects of games players who would like to come to Oxford. Those here who are hostile to games will have had their worst suspicions confirmed; those who are friendly will not be encouraged.

The picture painted both of the university and Keble College is unreal. Mr Roebuck has chosen a number of isolated incidents and drawn general conclusions from particular events. It is rather like arguing that because on occasions he failed, Bradman was not a great player. As Mr Roebuck has apparently made no effort to talk to me, or to anyone else at Keble, it is hard to know upon what evidence he bases his assertions about my values, interests or outlook on life.

At Keble, during the 26 years I have been a tutor, many sportsmen, and, more recently, sportswomen, have been pupils of mine. I have had much experience of what needs to be done in order to combine sporting achievement with the fulfilment of academic potential. The case of Philip Weston was judged accordingly; I did not think that, given all his other commitments during both term and vacation, it would have been possible for him to combine a cricket tour of Pakistan with the academic work required of him. This decision was not taken lightly, and was done with regret. As a matter of fact, contrary to Mr Roebuck's assertion, I did not refuse Mr Weston a place for 1992 — I said I could not reserve one for him.

Mr Roebuck clearly knows next to nothing about Keble, which has had an excellent sporting record for many years. Among my own pupils who finished in 1991 may be numbered David Platt (hockey) and cricket blues, and the only distinction in the diploma in social studies, Robert MacDonald (squash) and cricket blues and the master of studies in history) and David Norwood (chess grand master and a 2.1 in modern history). They are the most recent of a long line and they are being followed by others.

Frankly, it is their respect which I would wish to have — not that of Mr Roebuck, who even supposes that the author of the phrase "in the long run we are all dead" was an Oxford man. Like Mr Roebuck, J. M. Keynes was from Cambridge.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL M. HAYES (Senior tutor),
Keble College, Oxford.

From Mr G. B. T. Lovell
Sir, The case involving Keble College and Philip Weston has been most unfortunate. It has given Oxford University and its sport (particularly cricket) some very poor publicity when, truthfully, real progress has been made to redress a declining situation.

Let us remember firstly that Keble and its senior tutor did accept Weston. Whether other Oxford colleges would have done so is unknown, but, in the past, candidates of his dual proven abilities have been rejected. This is significant. The prime example is the incumbent Cambridge cricket captain, John Crawley (also a former England under-19 captain), who was re-

Pricing rail travel

From Mr Gareth Howell

Sir, I am intrigued by the new way of pricing rail travel in this country. Traditionally, ticket prices have been calculated on a cost per mile basis; however, we seem to be entering an era where an additional factor, "quality of service", is also to be used in the calculation.

Presumably, the "premium" lines have been assessed (by whom?) as being capable of delivering a higher service level and can therefore bear a higher tariff. Is the public to be made aware of this enhanced service level? And can we expect fares to fall on these "premium" lines if the operator fails to achieve these higher service levels? Or is this just another clever marketing trick to justify extracting more money out of a captive audience?

Yours faithfully,
GARETH HOWELL,
29 Blackmore,
Letchworth, Hertfordshire.
October 15.

Explosives safeguards

From the Chief Constable, Merseyside Police

Sir, Bernard Levin's article, "Break, enter and be damned" (October 7), is a wholly unwarranted attack upon the integrity and professionalism of the police service and does little credit to your newspaper.

The Control of Explosives Regulations 1991 come into effect on November 1. Their main provisions are to replace the present six types of explosive certificates with one (thereby considerably reducing the administrative bureaucracy), and to designate the chief officer of police as the enforcement authority for explosive storage and record-keeping for all stores except factories and magazines.

In the latter regard the chief officer will be making adequate arrangements for the enforcement of the regulations and will be responsible for the appointment of certain police officers as inspectors under the Health and Safety at Work Act. Such appointments will be strictly

limited in number and properly certified.

The existence of wide-ranging powers does not imply a vigorous enforcement and most certainly not in the manner described in the article. All actions by inspectors will be strictly supervised in accordance with a very detailed code drawn up by the Health and Safety Executive. To suggest that such officers will abuse powers in the manner portrayed is completely without foundation.

As chief constable I have a vicarious liability for the actions of all officers under my command and have, during the course of widespread discussions with all interested parties including representatives of the shooting organisations, given due assurances that any actions emanating from the enforcement of the regulations will be carried out in a proper, regulated and considerate manner.

Yours sincerely,
JIM SHARPLES (Chairman, Association of Chief Police Officers),
PO Box 59, Liverpool, Merseyside.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071 782 5046).

jected by an Oxford college last year. Let us remember, too, the importance of maintaining academic standards. Had Weston come up to Oxford, he might have passed his exams with distinction, but, from my own experience, I would have found a full Oxford cricket season as well as a six-week tour to Pakistan extremely difficult to cope with academically. This appears to have been the case with a Cambridge blue from last year who went on the England under-19 tour to New Zealand. He has since left that university because, it seems, he could not cope with the backlog of work.

Weston's decision was not an easy one, but, as was made clear, his cricket career would not have been hampered had he refused to go on tour. Oxford and Cambridge universities are the best cricket nurseries in the world for those who want to obtain a first-class education as well, and the opportunity was (and still is) there for Weston.

Roebuck is wrong to assert that, had he been a musician or ballet dancer, the situation would have been different. Had he been either of those, his best opportunities would have been provided by the royal academies. In the case of cricket, Oxford and Cambridge are unique in their positions to compete at the top domestic level. The status of Oxford, as a "seat of cricket learning", should not be downgraded.

There are now established links with schools, and more colleges are accepting the ideal of the games-playing scholar.

I consider it one of the highest privileges to have been accepted into Oxford. If only Weston could see it in a similar light, then perhaps we could see him playing in Oxford colours in the near future. Yours etc.,
G. B. T. LOVELL
(Captain, Oxford University Cricket Club, 1992),
Exeter College, Oxford.

University trading

From Mr A. L. Richards

Sir, I am surprised by your report (October 10) that the Inland Revenue intends to impose retrospective taxation on the business activities of universities and polytechnics.

Many of our charity clients are engaged in trading, which is not a charitable activity. They do not pay corporation tax, however, because their commercial operations are conducted by a separate trading company that covenants any profits to the charity.

This system is legal, simple and tax-efficient, and in our experience the Inland Revenue is always helpful. To cite a specific example, in 1979 we assisted the University of Keele in the setting up of its trading company to exploit commercially such assets as its main-frame computer, expert consultations and lettings.

Universities and polytechnics should be on maximum alert: if the Inland Revenue is now on the scene, HM Customs and Excise will soon join them with demands for VAT, an infinitely more complex subject. Yours faithfully,
TONY RICHARDS
(Managing Director),
Greathill Limited
(Charity management services),
53 Hestercombe Avenue, SW6.

Rural mayhem

From Mrs C. A. Baudrand

Sir, The following advertisement has appeared in your property section for the last week: "A Manor house with 5 1/2 acres, 10 beds... dove-cote, dead gardener..."

Should one therefore presume that no (under)takers have been forthcoming? Yours faithfully,
C. A. BAUDRAND,
D. J. Knight & Company,
10 Greville Place, NW6,
October 14.

CHANGE

6.00 Channel 4 Daily with news on the half hour
9.25 Schools
12.00 The Parliament Programme presented by Anne Perkins, with reports from Nicholas Woolley
12.30 Business Daily. News from the world's money markets
1.00 Sesame Street. Pre-school learning series
2.00 The March of Time presented by Murray Sayle. Today's programme examines the pre-war theory of strategic bombing as shown in the 1935 film *Seduce This* and how it worked in practice from 1944-46. *The Unknown Battle 1*
2.30 Racing from Newmarket. Brought Spot introduces live coverage of the Green King Handicap Stakes (2.35); the A.R. Dennis Bookmakers Nursery Handicap Stakes (3.05); the Challenge Stakes (3.40); and the Jeyes Handicap Stakes (4.10). The commentators are Graham Goode, John Oaksey and John

4.30 **Fifteen to One.** Fast-moving general knowledge quiz hosted by William G. Stewart

5.00 **The Oprah Winfrey Show.** The guest is Billy Crystal who talks about his latest film *City Slickers*

5.55 **Wife the Wierp.** Animated series set in a ghostly forest (r)

6.00 **The Time Tunnel.** Series from the 1950s about two scientists caught in a time warp. This week they find themselves in London

7.00 **Channel 4 News** with Jon Snow and Zeinab Badawi. (Teletext)

7.50 **Comment**

8.00 **Matters of Taste.** The second of Jancie Robinson's five-part series exploring the world of food and drink. This week she looks at London as the wine capital of the world (r). (Teletext)

8.30 **Bagdad Café.** Assembly line American comedy based on the successful film set in a desert diner. Tonight the diner's most regular customer, an artist, is delighted to be invited to show his paintings at a swish art gallery. Starring Whoopi Goldberg and



Cell death: Jamie Stewart mourned by his friends (8.00pm)

9.00 Critical Eye: Mysteries of July.
● **CHOICE:** The ostensible "mystery of July" is how a 22-year-old black man, Jamie Stewart, came to die in police custody. Arrested while driving a car in north London, he was taken to the police station and within 40 minutes of arrival was discovered unconscious in a cell. He was taken to hospital but pronounced dead. The circumstances of his death have never satisfactorily established. The police said he had died of a "drug overdose",

they had extensively searched him only half an hour before. This film by the Black Audio Film Collective uses the case of Jamie, and others who have died in custody, to raise what it calls "disturbing and alarming questions about police powers and accountability. The filmmaker feels that it is important to raise these issues in the community, though the net is spread wide enough to include the death of Blair Peach as well as the Guildford Four and the Birmingham Six. (Teletext)

10.00 Drop the Dead Donkey. Up-to-the-minute comedy set in a television newsroom. Starring Robert Duncan and Haydn Gwynne (s)

10.30 Love Talk presented by Carolyn Marshall. Two divorces, Linda and Rachel, who now live together in a small mobile home, talk about their love for each other

11.00 ... (text is cut off)

11.55 A Week in Politics. Vincent Hanna and Andrew Rawnsley review the week's political news. Charles Kennedy, MP, Oliver Letwin, Conservative candidate for the Hampstead and Highgate seat, and Professor Ivor Crewe, surmise on the general election issues; and there is a look at Wednesday's debate on manufacturing industry. Ends at 1.25am

7.00am Eurobicycles

5.30 Greenpeace 8.00 Herri's Lucy
8.30 T' Top 7000 Motels & Family
7.30 The Adams Family 8.00 C&A
6.30 It's Gerry Shand's Show
8.00 Hogan's Heroes 8.30 Herri's Lucy
9.00 The Vicar 10.30
Barney Miller 11.00 Kids In The Hall
11.30 Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In


SKY SPORTS

• Via the Astra and Meteosat Satellite.
6.30am Austria 7.00 International Football:
Poland vs Ireland 9.00 Americas 9.30
American Sports Cleveland 10.30 Americas
10.00 World Wrestling Challenge 12.00
England vs Turkey 2.00 NFL American
Football 4.00 ATP Tennis Magazine 5.00
Tennis 6.00 Phrynia World Championship
10.00 First Line 8.00 Power Hour Wrestling
9.00 NFL Today 10.00 Assignment
Adventures 11.00 European Football Roundup
12.00 Football in Ireland

PGA European Tour 9.30 Americas 10.00
Rugby World Cup 11.00 Sport League
Baseball 1.00pm Diesel Jans 2.00 Johnny
Walker Golf Report 2.30 Live Vohor Golf Report
3.00 NHRA Drag Racing 8.00 American
Soccer 7.00 Fastaction Motor Sport 8.00
FIA International Formula Championship 9.00
All Japan Sports Centre 10.30 Volvo PGA
European Golf 11.30 NHRA Drag Racing
12.30 Johnny Walker Golf Report

EUROSPORT

• Via the Astra satellite.
2.00pm Field Hockey 3.30 Dutch Sports
Magazine 4.00 Phrynia World Champio-
nship 5.00 Tennis 6.00 Sport League
Baseball 7.00 3pm Handball 8.00
6.00 Esquaters 9.00 Tennis Boarding 8.30
10.00 Football 11.30 Roadies Patrese
Story 12.30 News



 THE ROYAL OPERA

 presents a

 ROYAL DIAMOND GALA PERFORMANCE

 OF GIUSEPPE VERDI'S

Simon Boccanegra

 in the presence of Her Royal Highness

 The Princess of Wales

 Conductor : Georg Solti

 Amelia Grimaldi : Kim Te Kanawa

 Maria Boccaccegri

 Simon Boccaccegri : Alexandru Agache

 Orchestra Stalls

 seats available at £350

 12th November 1991 at 7.30pm

 For booking details contact Elspeth Barnes


 on 071-240 1200 ext 269

 In aid of Help the Aged

 and the Royal Opera House Trust

 Sponsored by

 De Beers Centenary & Minuscu



By BILL FROST AND KERRY GILL

The London Weather Centre predicted gusts of up to 80mph in exposed areas as the deep Atlantic depression responsible drifts slowly eastwards across the north Atlantic. "Damage to property is more than likely, and we would advise drivers to take extra care, especially if they

The Association of British Insurers yesterday told policy holders to take the weathermen's warning seriously over the next few days. Tony Baker, a spokesman for the association, said: "Batten down the hatches and prepare for the

worst. Householders should check their insurance is up to date and take sensible precautions to protect their property: shut all windows; put cars in the garage; take down ladders and scaffold poles; check gutters for blockages and roofs for loose tiles and slates and avoid all unnecessary journeys."



Continued from page 3

Harry Turner, managing director of TSW, told staff: "It is a bitter blow, particularly as we played by the rules. We passed the quality hurdle with flying colours and made the highest bid. They appear to have moved the goalposts. It is extraordinary." Rudolph Agnew, the TVS chairman, said he was "surprised and bitterly disappointed".

Winners and losers, pages 4-5
Blind date, page 18
Diary, page 18
Leading article, page 19
Shares fall, page 25

speaking for the government, to warn peers on this last point. A crisp speaker of the military-bureaucratic school, Lord Arran spoke of an altered international balance, of "strategy-led" but not "strategy-driven" thinking, the "trinitarian view", and the "dangers of overstretch". Several of the larger baronesses stirred uneasily in their seats.

"Fully Challenger-equipped," he added, our defence was "smaller but better". Their lordships' heads were beginning to spin. The earl threw "star-strike", "new attack-helicopters" and the "Boeing E3D" at them. Peers muttered uneasily. Where were

MATTHEW PARRIS

Continued from page 1

Dr Franke said yesterday that at first he feared the key papers had been destroyed when the East German regime collapsed. On one surviving document, he noticed a mark indicating the Military Medical Academy of the East German army. He managed to find eight theses that had not been destroyed, and an official

Dr Franke has been unable to calculate total spending, but in one project in Thuringia, 15 scientists were involved and annual spending amounted to half a million marks. "And this was only one of the 22 projects listed under State Plan 14.25," he says.

A nasal spray was developed using a testosterone precursor that would not be

detected. Raik Hannemann, a European junior swimming champion, described its effects as "like a volcanic eruption." It had such severe side-effects, including damage to his nasal membranes, that he was unable to compete in the 1988 Seoul Olympics. Hannemann claims all the East German Olympic team were told to use the spray.

Dr. Franke says the reports show that the steroids continued to be given to athletes even when sports doctors noticed damaging side-effects. Kerstin Behrendt, who won a silver medal at Seoul in the 400-metre relay, is recorded as receiving two doses of steroid even after it was found they were damaging her liver.

Continued from page 1

Mr Waldergrave cited a British Medical Association survey which showed growing consultant support of trust status. "Throughout the NHS, as the BMA has confirmed, there is increasing recognition of the benefits which trust status brings," he said. "Despite a truly scurrilous campaign by opposition parties, no informed observer can now doubt that trusts represent a necessary modernisation and simplification of NHS management, which is already

Self-governing trusts are part of the health service but manage their assets and can set their pay rates and borrow from the private sector.

Mr Waldegrave said that he had turned down seven units, two of which are London hospitals, because he did not think their proposals "were fully worked up". He suggested, too, that there had been local opposition in some of these areas.

Health service organisations were disappointed last night that Mr Waldegrave had gone ahead with so many trusts.

Opt-out list, page 2

Fair chance: After an article in last week's *Times*, action is to be taken at last on telephone canvassing companies that offer to sell second-hand cars through a computer register. *The Times* revealed that scores of complaints about unfair practice had been received by the Office of Fair Trading.

Rattling good idea: Is the collective name for a group of four Trabants a breakdown? Not according to Oliver Woolston, who has started a collection of the eccentric little vehicles from the former East Germany at his Hertfordshire farm.

- 1 Booth with a couple of silly creatures into? (8)
- 5 He accompanies an Aberdonian, say, across a river (6)
- 10 Promise to make jam, others not being involved (6,4,5)
- 11 Solves puzzles (7)
- 12 Warning compelling king to intervene (7)
- 13 Military intelligence doctor doing a photograph (8)
- 15 Fellow graduate accommodates Head of Maths for short break (5)
- 18 Greek screen with the ends missing (5)
- 20 With peacekeepers practical sense is exceptional (8)
- 23 King Edward V consumed? (7)
- 25 Ferret one out for Douglas, perhaps (3-4)

Solution to Puzzle No 18,738

S	C	A	R	P	E	R	O	C	T	O	F	U	S
L	I	U	E	D	U	A	T						
C	A	M	B	R	I	D	G	E	T	I	G	E	
K	O	C	O		O	E	A						
L	U	N	C	H		U	N	C	E	R	T	A	
E	E	A	B	K		N	G						
G	R	A	S	P	H	E	N	E	T	T	L	E	
H	E	A	E	N			R						
A	U	R	O	R	A	B	O	R	E	A	L		
R	A	L	L	M	R	A							
C	A	M	A	S	C	E	N	E	O	A	K	U	
C	P	T		A	U	S	I						
O	R	A	T	E									
R	G	E	O	E	E	M	N						
E	Y	E	B	R	O								
E	D	E	S	S									

DOWN

- 1 Was he a politician before becoming a physicist? (6).
- 2 Spray presented by tenor after turn (9).
- 3 A man of letters, the gipsy Lavenger (7).
- 4 Prisoner inside is making suggestions (5).
- 6 Like a burlesque, thus including send-up of a woman (7).
- 7 Bluish gas — a lightweight one (5).
- 8 Islander a painter depicted astride a horse (8).

14 US infantryman in a stew? (8).
16 Sail manufacturer grasps nothing about rigging at first (9).
17 Event raised nothing to support fellow music-maker (8).
19 Greek character provided quarters for Asians (7).
21 The brotherhood's political beliefs? (7).
22 Chaste girl digesting set novel (6).
24 Put this away – at once. OK? (5).
25 A female revolutionary, to begin with? (5).

Concise Crossword, page 21

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions are correct?
By Philip Howard

e Semic letter M
 type of hop vine
 fan of heavy-metal rock music
 NET
 river drift net
 ell-known
 small hunting dog
 OZHKI
 itinerant Russian salesman
 small triangular pastries
 een amber
 LID
 ot, or at least warm
 nning, or at least shrewd
 e lid of a vacuum flask
 (answer on page 22)

the latest AA traffic and road	7
s information, 24 hours a day	7
0836 401 followed by the	7
appropriate code	7
on SE	7
ndon (within N & S Circs)	7
ys/roads AA-M1	7
ys/roads M1-Dartford T	7
ys/roads Dartford T-M23	7
ys/roads M23-M4	7
London Orbital only	7
nal	7
nal motorways	7
Country	7
nds	7
ngla	7
est England	7
est England	7
nd	7
est Ireland	7
oadwork is charged at 36p	7
s (cheap rate) and 48p per min	7
other times.	7

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fo=fog; s=sun;

[illegible]

TOURIST RATES	
Australia \$	Bank Buy
Austria Sch	2.23c
Belgium Ffr	21.50
Bulgaria Lev	62.50
Denmark Krk	7.46
Finland Mk	11.75
France Frf	19.36
Germany Din	10.48
Greece Dr	337.00
Hong Kong S	12.65
Ireland Pnt	1.137
Italy Lit	236.00
Japan Yen	236.25
Netherlands Gld	3.43
Norway Kr	9.45
Portugal Esc	261.00
Saudi Arabia Rd	2.00
Spain Pes	190.00
Sweden Kr	11.15
Switzerland Fr	2.00
Turkey Lira	8700.00
USA \$	1.20
Yugoslavia Dnr	0.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Differentials apply to travellers' cheques.

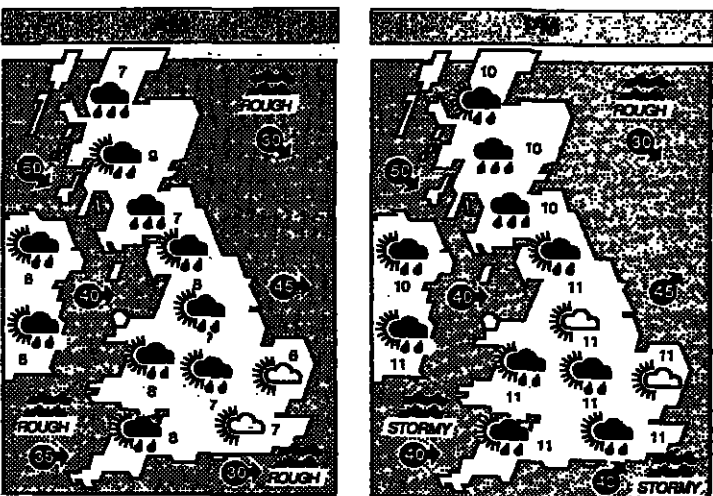
GLASGOW

Yesterday: Temp; max 6am to 6pm 12.5F; min 6pm to 6am, BC 33.3F; rain 0.57 in. Sun. 24hr to rain 3.8 in.

parts of Britain, with north-
ern England, south and
d and north Wales. Elsewhere,
the winds will come showers,
also be longer spells of rain in
and and northern England.
showery.

[illegible]

the appropriate code.	
Greater London	701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex	702
West Midlands & CW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wales, Gwynedd, Avon, Dorset	705
Wiltshire, Dorset, Devon	706
Bide, Herts & Essex	707
Northfolk, Suffolk, Cambs	708
Northfolk, Suffolk, Cambs & Gwent	709
Shrops, Hereford & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
York & Humberside	713
Glyndaf & Powys	714
Wales & Gwynedd	715
N & S Wales & Dales	716
N E England	717
W & S England	718
North & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
W & S Fife, Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
W & S Highlands	725
Caithness, Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727
Weatheral is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.	



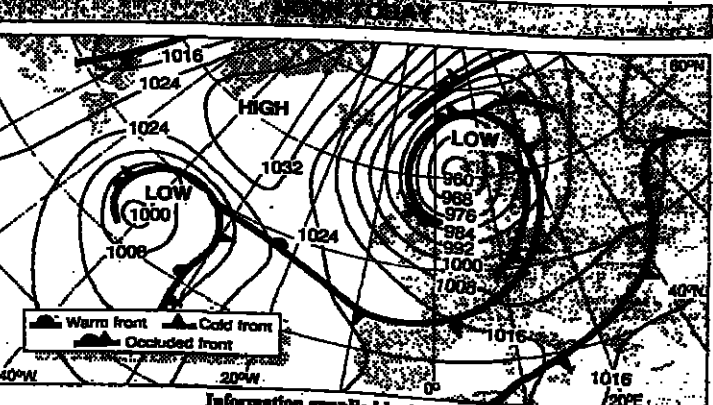
London 6.04 pm to 7.29 am
 Bristol 6.14 pm to 7.28 am
 Edinburgh 6.09 pm to 7.49 am
 Manchester 6.09 pm to 7.41 am
 Penzance 6.26 pm to 7.46 am

Sun sets:
 7.27 am
 Moon sets:
 6.04 pm
 Moon rises:
 6.29 am

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; i, ice; f, rain; s, sun.

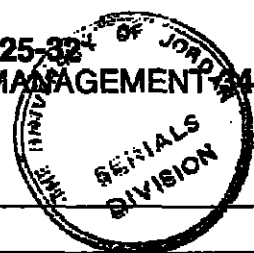
	C	F		C	F	
Belfast	11	52	f	Guernsey	14	57
Birmingham	16	59	f	Inverness	9	48
Birmingham	16	59	f	Jersey	14	57
Bristol	15	59	f	Leamington	14	57
Cardiff	16	59	d	Manchester	16	59
Edinburgh	11	52	f	Newcastle	15	59
Glasgow	11	52	f	Plymouth	13	55

Yesterday: Temp: max Barn to 6pm, 17C (63F); min Barn to 6am, 8C (46F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.11 in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 2.7 hr.

[illegible]

Political sketch
s no match
he militan

● BUSINESS AND FINANCE 25-32
● FOCUS: PENSION FUND MANAGEMENT 34-35
● LAW REPORT 36
● SPORT 36-40



THE TIMES BUSINESS

THURSDAY OCTOBER 17 1991

25
Business Editor
John Bell

Pensions borders to fall

The European pension fund industry was turned on its head yesterday with the publication of a directive that will open borders to new investment.

The proposals by the European Commission will clear the way for British fund managers to advise and deal for clients throughout the EC. It will also allow them to invest more freely abroad.

The directive, which is expected to be approved next year, will probably take effect from January 1, 1993. Only company and private pension funds are affected.

Sir Leon Brittan, European Commissioner for competition policy, called for pan-European occupational pension schemes.

Pension funds, page 34

BT coup

BT has taken a further step into the business telephone systems market by winning a contract to replace the in-house telephone system at Barclays Bank, linking head office with 900 large branches and regional offices. The BT deal will save Barclays £5 million in capital spending.

Comment, page 27

Thorntons up

Thorntons, the chocolate retailer, saw pre-tax profits increase by 5 per cent to 11.9 million for the 12 months to end-June, on sales up 12.4 per cent at £79.9 million. The final dividend is 2.4p, making a total of 3.6p, an increase of 9.1 per cent. The shares fell 1p to 175p.

Tempus, page 29

Payout pegged

Lilley, the Glasgow construction group, is holding its interim dividend at 1p even though pre-tax profits for the six months to end-June fell from £6.52 million to £1.73 million.

Tempus, page 29

THE POUND

US dollar

1.7080 (+0.0040)

German mark

2.9121 (-0.0017)

Exchange index

90.2 (same)

Bank of England official

close (4pm)

STOCK MARKETS

FT 30 share

1980.5 (+7.0)

FT-SE 100

2579.0 (+2.3)

New York Dow Jones

3042.71 (+1.34)*

Tokyo Nikkei Average

24334.67 (+27.02)

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 10 1/8%

3-month interbank 10 1/8%-10 3/4%

3-month eligible bills 10 1/8%-10 3/4%

US: Prime Rate 8%

Federal Funds 6 1/4%

3-month Treasury Bills 4.96-4.94%

30-year bonds 10 1/8%-10 3/4%

CURRENCIES

London: New York:

£: \$1.7085

£: DM2.9113

£: Sfr2.5441

£: FF6.9318

£: Yen222.41

£: Index50.2

ECU 0.70336

SDR 0.791850

£: ECU1.42196

£: SDR1.282895

London foreign market close

GOLD

London Fixing:

AM \$356.40 pm \$356.55

close \$356.50-\$357.00 (\$208.50)

New York:

Comex \$359.35-\$359.85*

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Cable & Wireless 562 1/2p (+10c)

THORN EM 798 1/2p (+12c)

Vodafone 381p (+10c)

Mersey Docks 207 1/2p (+18c)

203 1/2p (+40c)

Typical TV 184p (+11p)

Granada 184p (+11p)

Enterprise 535 1/2p (+13p)

Enterprise 535 1/2p (+13p)

Enterprise 535 1/2p (+13p)

Enterprise 535 1/2p (+13p)

Enterprise 535 1/2p (+13p)

Enterprise 535 1/2p (+13p)

Enterprise 535 1/2p (+13p)

Enterprise 535 1/2p (+13p)

Dealers mark down TV's high bidders

By MARTIN WALLER

SHARES in three of the successful incumbent ITV companies fell heavily amid concern that some television companies had financially overstretched themselves in the fight to avoid losing their franchises and might have difficulty surviving through the contract period.

Yorkshire TV fell 22p to 180p; HTV, serving Wales and the west of England, fell 5p to 46p; and Anglia, although seen as one of the more financially resilient groups, slipped 33p to 198p.

Two companies that were unopposed and went through after bidding derisory amounts continued to rise; Scottish gained 15p to 64p and Central 43p to 108p. Among the few real surprises on the industry's decision day were the low levels of bids from Granada, which retains the Northwest contract, and LWT, the London weekend franchise holder. Granada shares advanced 11p to 184p, while LWT's convertible preference shares rose 53p to 198p.

Nick Ward, media analyst at Smith New Court, the broker, said the market had made an accurate assessment of what most companies had offered, but there was concern that some companies had overbid or had based their

financial assumptions on over-optimistic projections. The higher the proportion of revenue that had to be handed over to the government during the next franchise round, he said, "the closer you are to running into problems if net advertising revenue only grows in real terms, for the sake of argument, at 2 per cent a year". He pointed out that TVS, the south of England contractor that lost out to Meridian, had been looking for real growth of 5.7 per cent, at the top of industry projections.

Clive Leach, the managing director of Yorkshire, defended his company's finances and described suggestions that the company might run into trouble as "unbelievable rubbish". He added: "I can assure you that we will be in profit from day one and we've got no worries on that point."

The media team at Barclays de Zoete Wedd none the less believes that earnings from Yorkshire, HTV and Anglia will be on a downward trend in 1993 and the shares look expensive. But there are no worries in the market about the size of Anglia's bid and most of yesterday's fall in the share price was being put down to profit taking.

Tyne Tees may be one of the over-payers, but the market is gambling on a full bid from Yorkshire, its 19 per cent shareholder, when the regula-

tions allow in 1994. Tyne Tees shares rose 49p to 284p.

Of the four losers in the latest franchise round, Thames showed a 7p advance to 203p and TV-am slipped just 2p to 122p. TSW, the south-west contractor, fell 12p to 70p and TVS lost 7p to 21p.

Both Thames and TVS, which have substantial programme libraries and production facilities, are reckoned to have healthy futures as independents and will now not be hindered by the necessity of making large payments to the government.

TV-am is estimated to have £40 million cash in the bank and its studios are valued in the accounts at £9 million. It will be able to concentrate on extracting the maximum amount of cash from the business over the next 14 months, while City estimates of the worth of a break-up have gone as high as 120p. Likewise, TVS is estimated to be worth as much as 40p a share if it were to be broken up.

TSW will decide on its future strategy at a board meeting on Tuesday. "We had no agenda for losing," admitted Harry Turner, its managing director. The options include developing its in-house advertising space sales company and expanding the limited range of programmes already being made.

Thames is 59 per cent owned by Thorn-EMI, which expressed its disappointment that the company had not been successful but said its decision to make an offer for the whole of the share capital earlier this year was made on the basis of a valuation that did not presume the franchise would be retained.

Also gaining from the franchise round were MA1, up 7p to 124p, the financial services group that is a 66 per cent shareholder in Meridian, and SelectTV, a 15 per cent shareholder, up 1 1/2p to 24 1/2p.

Legal challenge, page 1
Winners and losers, pages 4, 5
Diary, page 18
TV's blind date, page 18
Leading article, page 19

Winner	Cash bid + % of revenue	Total bid as % of ad revenue (estimated)
Sunrise	£34.6m + 15%	54
Carlton	£43.2m + 31%	30
LWT	£7.58m + 11%	15
Central	£22.00m + 11%	11
Granada	£3m + 11%	11
Meridian	£38.5m + 11%	31
Yorkshire	£37.7m + 7%	33
Anglia	£17.8m + 7%	21
HTV	£20.5m + 2%	23
Scottish	£22.0m + 2%	2
Tyne Tees	£15.1m + 2%	31
Border	£52.0m + 0%	0.5
Grampian	£720,000	3.8
Ulster	£1m	4.2
Channel	£1,000	-

The table shows the proportion that would have to be paid to the government by the biggest TV companies if the new franchise round were to proceed. The franchise holders will pay the lump sum they bid, along with a fixed percentage of advertising revenue. The table is based on City estimates of 1991 net advertising revenue.

TML firms 'hide behind secrecy', says Morton

By ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

SIR Alastair Morton, chief executive of Eurotunnel, has signalled his willingness to take legal action against Transmanche Link if it repeatedly breaches the confidentiality clause in its contract to build the £8 billion Channel tunnel.

In a letter to *The Times* today, however, Sir Alastair makes it clear there is no reason for TML's ten shareholder companies not to provide a full report on the implications for their balance sheets of participation in TML. Sir Alastair accuses TML members of using the confidentiality clause to avoid embarrassment over its performance. "It seems the alleged 'gap' is only pleaded when the question asked is inconvenient to TML or its member companies," he

writes. He goes on to warn: "As for comments attributed to TML itself over the past few days, if necessary, legal judgment can be given later, to us or our shareholders, whether they are in breach of contract or intended to injure the value of our shareholders' interest in this enterprise."

Sir Alastair's letter was written after Eurotunnel shares fell by 17p to 442p in response to deepening conflict between Eurotunnel and TML over £810 million of additional claims on the £620 million lump sum contract for boring and fitting out the tunnel.

TML sources have said completion of the cross-Channel link could be delayed until March 1994 because of modifications necessary to some of the rolling stock. A High Court judge will today hear an application by Eurotunnel for an injunction to prevent TML carrying out an alleged threat to stop work on the tunnel's cooling system.

Sir Alastair warning

Letters, page 19

Asda clinches Norman conquest



In the hot seat: Asda chairman Patrick Gillam faced some tough talking at the group's meeting yesterday

SIB fails to tighten rules for disclosure

By LINDSAY COOK
MONEY EDITOR

SIR David Walker put the Securities and Investments Board on a collision course with the trade department and the Office of Fair Trading yesterday, when he announced that the board was against any changes in the rules on disclosure of commission.

Peter Lilley, the trade secretary, asked the SIB, of which Sir David is chairman, last December to revise its rules on the disclosure of commission when an investment was being sold. Investors are not told until after they have agreed to take out a policy how much commission the salesman will receive, and then it is expressed as a percentage of annual premiums.

SIB's consultative paper on disclosure does not propose any change on that score. The paper does, however, intend that investors should be given a written summary detailing how much money they get back on policies cashed in early. The summary will include figures expressed as a reduction in policy proceeds to show the long-term impact of the life company's costs.

The board expects a fight. It says it does not intend to implement any changes until after their competition policy implications have been reported on by the OFT.

Sir Gordon Borrie, the director general of fair trading, persuaded the department of trade last year that the rules were anti-competitive.

He said: "Full disclosure of commission is necessary for investors to be able to compare independent financial advisers in terms of the costs and quality of their advice."

The OFT said Sir Gordon would be consulting the trade department and SIB on the proposals.

Public borrowing doubles in year

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

A SHARP deterioration in government finances in the first half of the current fiscal year was rounded off by Treasury figures that showed a £2.92 billion borrowing requirement in September, well in excess of City forecasts.

With the effects of recession pushing tax receipts down and boosting spending, the public sector borrowing requirement (PSBR) built up to £10.8 billion in the six months from April, exactly double what it was at the same stage last year. This makes the Budget forecast of a £7.9 billion PSBR for the whole year appear overoptimistic.

Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, is likely to bring the official forecast more closely into line with market expectations in his autumn statement next month.

While a slight overshoot

from the Budget forecast this year will not upset the financial markets, Mr Lamont will face upward pressure on interest rates if the recovery fails to halt the deterioration in government finances next year.

City economists have pencilled in a PSBR of £15 billion to £20 billion for 1992-3, well above Treasury expectations. Last month's PSBR, which followed a £1.88 billion borrowing requirement in August, reflected Inland Revenue receipts 9.5 per cent below September 1990, probably caused by weaker income tax receipts. Central government expenditure was 12 per cent higher than a year earlier.

● Producer prices in western Germany rose 0.3 per cent in September for an annual increase of 2.6 per cent, official data showed.

ARCHIE Norman, the finance director of Kingfisher, has been confirmed as chief executive of Asda (Gillian Bowditch writes). The shares rose 5p to 50p, 15p above the price of the shares to be issued in the £357 million cash call.

The issue was overwhelmingly approved yesterday at a sometimes bad tempered special meeting at Pudsey, near Leeds. About 400 shareholders attended and there were calls for Patrick Gillam, the new chairman, to dismiss directors who had presided over the group's decline. There were also calls for Asda to move out of non-food retailing.

Mr Gillam told shareholders that Mr Norman, who had been approached some weeks earlier, accepted the post only 15 minutes before yesterday's meeting began. Mr Norman, who was not at the meeting, told *The Times* that the job was "a formidable challenge". He said he had some ideas for the group but would want to immerse himself in the business for some months before making any announcements.

He said he was still negotiating when he would leave Kingfisher.

WHAT HELPS GRAHAM GOOCH'S GILT-EDGED PERFORMANCES?



Graham Gooch - 333 runs - England v India, 1990

WHITTINGDALE'S LONG-TERM BOND!

WHITTINGDALE: Official Sponsors of the Development of Gooch and his England Squad.



WHITTINGDALE
GILT-EDGED EXPERTS

Whittingdale Ltd (Group) Limited is a member of Lloyds and L11770. Whittingdale Limited is a member of Lloyds.

Boardroom door still closed to women

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

ABOUT one company in ten would reject a woman candidate for a top management job no matter how well qualified the might be, according to a report from the Policy Studies Institute.

Its authors, Elspeth Howe and Susan McRae, surveyed women directors and the chairmen of the companies that employed them. They found that where women do sit on boards they tend to be non-executive rather than executive and where they are executive directors they are more likely to sit on subsidiary boards than main ones. Female executive directors do seem to be distributed across the range of responsibilities.

The report says that in 1989, 21 of the UK's 200 largest industrial companies had between them 24 women board members, six of whom were executive directors. Lady Howe and Mrs McRae say that while a tenth of senior managers are female, women account for only 1 per cent of chief executives. Since the

favoured candidates of many chairmen for non-executive directorships are the heads of other companies, the gender imbalance is repeated among non-executives.

The main barriers blocking a woman's climb are the structure and organisation of work and attitudes of the people who run the company. "Pioneering" companies that have appointed women to their boards tend to be in areas closely identified with women's traditional roles in the home and in the labour force. Of 20 such companies mentioned in the report, seven are banks or building societies and ten are retailers. The special expertise that women might have in these areas is, for many chairmen, an important consideration in the appointment of a woman to the board.

The report finds encouraging evidence of women who have broken traditional barriers and achieved commercial success on the same footing as men, but it questions whether they would have done so without the

influence that comes with possession of a title, or of family or political connections. "To an extent, these women come within the old boy network and are reasonably safe," the report says.

While both women directors and the chairmen who appointed them insisted that female non-executives should be of the same quality as men, they thought women had particular skills that were helpful to the board.

These included original views of the market place, ability to give career advice to promising women employees, strong contributions in the areas of personnel and customer relations, greater design awareness and ability to ask essential questions without feeling they had lost face.

The report concludes: "In time, the number of women on boards will grow and their presence will become unremarkable. But it does not often make good economic sense to wait for time to bring those changes that could improve corporate performance immediately."

By a CORRESPONDENT

By OUR CITY STAFF

Isaiah 61:1-4

RECENT ISSUES

RIGHTS ISSUE

THE ~~AND~~ TIMES
BUSINESS TO BUSINESS

071 481 1982

OR FAX

071 782 7828



By Our City Staff


In 1990, Wimpey Waste earned operating profits of £4.3 million on turnover of £35.1 million. This year, earnings are expected to be £5.5 million, and turnover

Wimpey is the second big company this year to offload waste disposal interests. In May, BET sold Biffa to Severn Trent, another water company, for £212 million.

Tempus, page 29

Series	Cuts			Puts		
	Oct	Jan	Apr	Oct	Jan	Apr
All Excess	558	56	74	99	Fr	15
*603	600	13	41	63	9	33
	450	2	23	42	50	63

		Calls				Puts	
		Series	Nov	Feb	May	Nov	Feb
Product	1	220	18	27	32	2	6
	(*)232	240	6	15	18	10	14
		260	1%	8%	11	29	30


 19
 34

By OUR CITY STAFF

franchise round, axed 550 jobs at its troubled computer maintenance business. 300 jobs were cut in Wiltshire by Avon Rubber and 300 were shed in Northumberland by British Alcan Aluminium.

Alcan is temporarily cutting production of aluminium worldwide by 8.5 per cent because of rising stocks of the metal and the lowest price since 1985. About 200 jobs will also go in Quebec.

The Lynemouth, Northumberland, workers will go next month and the production

Lonrho s

LONRHO, the international trading conglomerate, began a High Court action seeking to disqualify the Fayed brothers

The company and Tiny Rowland, its chairman, seek an order to force Peter Lilley, trade and industry secretary, to apply to disqualify the *Eased brothers under the*

After was 'as aware
misleading

misleading

highly respected business policies and still is". Outhwaite was "astonished about the existence of the problem, but, like the others, had assumed that the problem could be appropriately reserved for the future."

The contracts submitted by the contractors for losses "due to a number of factors, including

QC. on underwrite Saville. of a man ushover"

By OUR INDUSTRIAL STAFF



It is part of a continuing overhaul at Granada. The group sold its Canadian rental business to the management on Monday, giving rise to a £35 million extraordinary loss.

eds order

origins, their wealth and their business interests, but Nicholas Ridley, the trade secretary at the time, decided in March

John Beveridge QC, Loro's counsel, told Lord Justice Neill and Mr Justice McCullough that the Fayed's had duped the minister.

The hearing continues today.

t asbestos

Southwaite
e 421, which is believed to have
12 run-off policies, had suffered
losses per £10,000 share than
Mr Rokinson said. The fact
pected underwriters other than
Southwaite underwrote such business
ined the plaintiffs' submission

of syndicates were having to serve in 1981 in relation to old asbestos claims. Mr. Tate was an "ideal candidate" to set off policies for these syndicates of their "long-tail" character.

Rokinson said. Mr Outhwaite recently taken over the syndicate trying to build up a book of long-ness for tax reasons. use continues today.

ETX	750	1	8	17	115	115	11
(*403)	390	25	37	42	4%	11	11
	420	7	19	26	18	26	33
Br Aero	360	1%	7%	12	56	58	11
(*380)	360	30	47	53	9	19	24
	414	6	22	27	43	47	61
Br Telecom	360	37	43	52	2%	8%	11
(*392)	390	13	23	33	9%	20	25
	420	3%	11	20	30	37	46
Castrol	390	30	48	54	7	15	22
(*409)	420	13	31	39	19	27	35
	460	3	17	24	51	53	69
Guinness	950	85	115	130	3%	13	18
(*1024)	1000	45	78	98	13	28	37

13	R-Royce	1000	42	70	95	50	75
14	(#135)	130	11%	15%	17%	4	8
15		140	6	10	12	9	14
16	Scars	160	1%	3	6	26	27
17	(#93)	80	14	17	19	14	3%
18		90	7	10%	12%	4%	7
19	Thorn EMI	100	3%	6%	7%	12	13
20	(#799)	700	10	11	7	2	6
21		750	63	77	95	8	15
22		800	26	45	67	28	35
23		850	8	22	38	62	63
24	TSB	130	15	17	20	3	5%
25	(#138)	140	8	10	15	6	10
26		160	2%	4%	7	22	24
27	Vital Reach	50					

83
10
54
29
5
94
15
-
19
48
64
7
12
25

17	val Reef	60	10	12	16	2%	5
18	(*267)	70	5	8	9	8	11
19	Wellness	700	46	72	92	25	30
20	(*721)	750	24	47	67	59	64
21		800	11	30	49	59	60
22	Series Nov Feb May Nov Feb						
23	Eastern Elec	230	11%	19	24	4	9%
24	(*246)	250	3%	8	13	17	21
25		270	1	4	7	36	38
26	Series Dec Mar Jun Dec Mar						
27	Nor Power	140	2%	23	28	2	4
28	(*158)	160	8%	12	17	6	11
29		180	3	5%	8%	24	25
30	Scott Power	100	1	1	1	1	1

FT-42 INDEX (% C2578)					
2500	2550	2600	2650	2700	2
Oct	95	51	20	6	2
Nov	121	83	57	29	15
Dec	150	115	80	53	34
Jan	171	132	100	74	52
Jun	250	-	185	-	160

Month	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
Jan	100	100	100	100	100
Feb	100	100	100	100	100
Mar	100	100	100	100	100
Apr	100	100	100	100	100
May	100	100	100	100	100
Jun	100	100	100	100	100
Jul	100	100	100	100	100
Aug	100	100	100	100	100
Sep	100	100	100	100	100
Oct	100	100	100	100	100
Nov	100	100	100	100	100
Dec	100	100	100	100	100
Jan	100	100	100	100	100
Feb	100	100	100	100	100
Mar	100	100	100	100	100
Apr	100	100	100	100	100
May	100	100	100	100	100
Jun	100	100	100	100	100
Jul	100	100	100	100	100
Aug	100	100	100	100	100
Sep	100	100	100	100	100
Oct	100	100	100	100	100
Nov	100	100	100	100	100
Dec	100	100	100	100	100

13
26
9
15%
750
1
8
20
13

Sir David misses the point

Sir David Walker, chairman of the Securities and Investments Board, professes himself mystified by the need of investors for more information on the effect of costs and expenses on their future pay outs. He is quite happy with the present obscure formula, expressed as reduction in the yield, forecast many years ahead, as an annual percentage. This may be actuarially sound but, as so often, few others can understand it.

Sir David is dead set against giving customers any more information on the amount of commission earned by salesmen, or helping them to understand that life products are invariably more profitable for salesmen than other investments. Letting investors know that the insurance company recommended by a broker is also one of the most generous in its remuneration to financial advisers is another non-runner as far as Sir David is concerned. It would be impossible to regulate and therefore should not be attempted, he says.

Under the current regime only the pushy and well-informed stand a chance of being given

information on commission by a salesman. Yet Sir David acknowledged this week that the current system of commission payment is fundamentally unhealthy.

Until investors can compare payments to salesmen, they will not be able to judge the independence of their investment advice. Honest brokers should welcome full disclosure.

The Financial Services Act was not set up to protect those already in the know and able to look after themselves. If Sir David will not champion investors it falls to that doubtful fighter, Sir Gordon Borrie, director general of fair trading.

Sir Gordon managed to persuade the trade secretary, Peter Lilley, of the need for full disclosure of commission at the point of sale. Sir David seems determined to ignore the call. He seems quite happy at the advantage the current system gives to the sale of life products.

Maybe he needs more direct contact with ordinary investors.

Written off

America's banking industry continues in turmoil. The latest provisions by Citicorp and Security Pacific show that others are even weaker. SecPac is taking the more cautious view of BankAmerica, its stronger merger partner. Moody's, the credit rating agency, sees Citicorp's axed quarterly dividend as positive and is maintaining its rather mediocre ratings.

In principle, transatlantic woes allied with weaker Japanese competition, should leave richer pickings for other international banks still able to expand. One recent sign was the withdrawal of

American banks from UK property lending, though British banks may not have been overjoyed to take up the slack.

The trouble is that the Swiss and Germans may benefit more than the British, whose domestic provisions have been on a like scale. Throughout the English-speaking world, banks allowed the quality of their loans to suffer for the sake of quantity. The harvest is likely to remain rotten for some time to come.

BT queries

Potential investors in the government's BT sale will look in vain in the prospectus for any statement from Sir Bryan Carsberg, the industry's regulator, on what he has in mind for future changes in

the control regime or — perhaps more valuable — what he does not intend to do. The government, which has to approve any substantive changes proposed by Sir Bryan or the Monopolies Commission, will likewise not go beyond the bland general statements usual in privatisation prospectuses. In particular, it will not set out any meaningful policy parameters.

This may be perfectly normal and proper but investors will draw their own conclusions. Circulars from brokers involved in the issue have tended to play down the risk of drastic changes against BT's interest, on the ground that Sir Bryan has recently pushed through a big overhaul of the regime via the duopoly review and tighter pricing limits. This will not wash. Comforting analyses of British Gas took a similar line on its relations with Ofgas until the company was hit amidst the acceptance of

radical new proposals from the Office of Fair Trading. BT is due to come under a new pricing regime from 1993 that could take in all sorts of similar changes.

Independent brokers are starting to bring these worries to the fore. A circular from Patrick Wellington of County Natwest, the leading analyst free to speak his mind, has already hit the BT price, virtually removing their outperformance in the early stages of the institutional marketing drive.

Lawrence Heyworth of Robert Fleming boldly suggests that institutions should not be pressurised into buying BT. Instead, they should ask a series of searching questions of Sir Bryan. This is highly pertinent. Sir Bryan has mused far and wide, raising the possibility of BT being broken up, of returns on capital being too high. He has raised the possibility of "excess" profits, whatever that may mean, being split between shareholders and customers. Investors should be prepared for the worst. Sir Bryan has made one thing clear: the value of BT to investors does not come into his considerations.

AMID the teacups and dinner plates at Seagoe Ceramics' factory in Portlough, Northern Ireland, stood a row of smooth white cones, each almost three feet high, and perhaps 18 inches in diameter at the base.

These were the nose cones of Tornado fighters. Made from a fused silica, capable of withstanding wide temperature variations and the impact of a bird-strike, the ceramic cones allow radar signals to be transmitted and received without distortion.

For many years, defence components such as these have been a small, but cherished, part of Seagoe's business. Michael Coulfield, Seagoe's managing director, says: "Radomes only account for a couple of per cent of our turnover but defence work is steady, and it is profitable if you are in a specialised niche. We would like to have more."

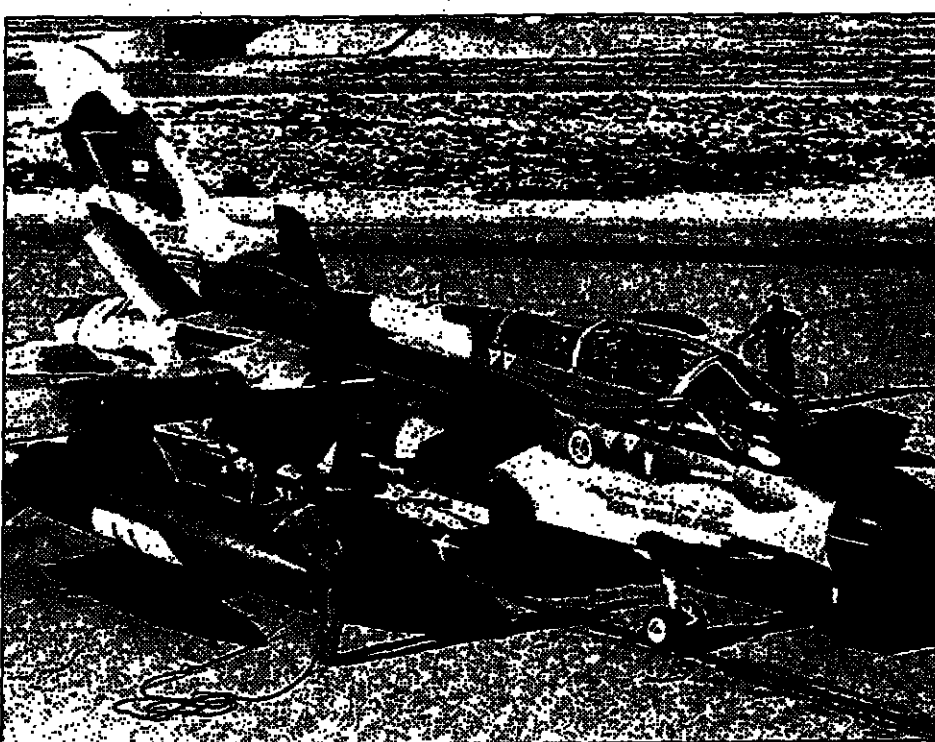
So it is for thousands of companies in the United Kingdom. Defence work has rarely been immensely profitable but it has provided a useful underpinning on which firms have been able to lean a little during downswings in the economic cycle.

Leyland DAF, the Anglo Dutch lorry builder, has had a tough time in the present recession. Demand for trucks in the UK has slumped 30 per cent. A British army contract to supply light trucks and "Drops" palletised load carriers has helped the company retain workers who might otherwise have faced the dole queue. Development work on the vehicles has also assisted DAF to maintain the cost effectiveness of its research facilities in Lancashire.

For firms like these that produce limited runs of defence hardware alongside much larger volumes of commercial products, the contraction of Britain's armed forces is damaging, but it should not be a disaster. They have alternative products, and they have an established marketing network through which to sell them. Commercial products must play a bigger part in the production mix; it is simply a question of re-balancing. But the coincidence of static or declining defence spending and recession has exacerbated the problems of adjustment.

Some companies may actually benefit from the change. After all, no one is suggesting that total government spending will decline. Over the longer term, construction contractors may find themselves building hospitals, or homes for servicemen repatriated from Germany, rather than repairing airfield runways.

Few defence contractors can



After-sales service: despite air raids, BAE kept Saudi Tornados flying against Iraq

Exports offer the best defence against cuts and recession

substitute one product for another with such flexibility, however. Swan Hunter, the Tyneside warship builder, has just completed the James Clark Ross, a highly sophisticated polar research vessel. But it has taken considerable study for the yard's management to identify feeder ships for container ports as a growth market where Swan can seek to compete with merchant ship builders.

Much of Britain's defence procurement spending tends to be channelled through a small number of large companies, which often use smaller firms as contractors.

In the year to March 1990, only five concerns were paid more than £250 million by Britain's defence ministry: British Aerospace, the General Electric Company, Rolls-Royce, VSEL and Devonport Management, which runs the Devonport royal dockyard.

In the second rank, receiving from £100 million to £250 million, were ten companies: Boeing Aerospace of America, Dowty, FKI Babcock, GKN, Short Brothers, Thorn EMI,

Ross Tieman concludes an examination of the problems facing Britain's contracting arms industry

Vickers, Westland, Ferranti and Plessey.

The changes that have occurred among these top 15 companies in the past eighteen months alone is worth examining: each of the top five has announced job losses; combined, the numbers run into tens of thousands. But there has also been a striking concentration of ownership.

GEC has effectively subsumed the defence activities of Ferranti and Plessey. Babcock and Thorn are still wedded through their joint management of the Rosyth dockyard, but elsewhere Thorn is energetically withdrawing from the defence

arena. Short Brothers has become part of a larger group, Bombardier of Canada.

A similar picture of concentration shows up among smaller contractors that count defence as the largest part of their business.

As Dick Evans, chief executive of British Aerospace, Britain's biggest defence contractor, observes: "For many companies, if defence is only 15 per cent of your turnover, you're not going to stay with it." In many cases, the truth of his words is already evident.

There are really two types of leading defence company: the platform builders and system integrators, which produce finished equipment such as tanks, planes and ships, and the component suppliers, such as GEC.

As the historic barriers around national defence procurement markets decline, so competitive tension is developing between equipment makers. Platform builders are looking at alternative suppliers, often from overseas: suppliers are looking to channel their products, often

through joint ventures, into weapons produced by foreign platform builders.

Part of the fuss surrounding BAE's rights issue developed because of GEC's desire to secure its place as BAE's main supplier of electronic equipment. BAE argues that closer integration might threaten its ability to win sales in defence markets that are increasingly international.

The breakdown of traditional East-West areas of hegemony has opened the way for a free-for-all in international arms sales. Historically, both sides sold hand-me-down equipment to their own group of client states. The Gulf war has set the seal on the new order. Henceforth, overseas arms buyers will want technology appropriate to their needs, and in areas of political instability, that will mean high technology.

Britain's defence contractors are well placed to compete. BAE did not just build the Tornado fighters with which Saudi pilots shot down Iraqi warplanes; its technicians kept the Royal Saudi Air Force flying, despite the Scud missiles falling on Dhahran. No other arms builder can claim such a record of in-service support.

The appointment of Sir Colin Chandler, who, as a civil servant, helped mastermind Britain's domination of the Saudis' Al Yamamah defence procurement programme, as the next chairman at Vickers is another sign of the trend. Vickers will be looking to the Middle East as an export market for its Challenger 2 tanks.

Swan Hunter has established an operation in Malaysia with an eye to potential Far Eastern markets for offshore patrol vessels. Vosper Thornycroft, the Southampton warship builder, regards crew training and support as an integral part of its export efforts.

Distasteful though it may seem to some, exports are an important part of the battle by Britain's defence industry to maintain the production volumes it needs to recoup the development costs of high-technology weapons systems. They are also a key to the preservation of a substantial indigenous defence industry that can increase production to meet domestic needs in times of increased tension, without being a drain on the taxpayer in the interim.

Little wonder that the defence ministry has emerged as an aggressive partner of the defence industry's export efforts. The greater Britain's arms export success, the less the trauma at home.

the leftovers. These otherwise unemployable people will shortly be taking up executive positions at Barings. They are exactly the same as those already there." The witch hunt has already begun...

Wilderness girls

SIR Peter Holmes, dapper and adventurous co-chairman of Royal Dutch/Shell, the world's biggest oil group, must be proud of the exploits of two of his daughters, Jo and Martha. Less than three months after Jo married naturalist and safari guide Robin Pope in the Luangwa Valley, Zambia, her sister has emerged as the star of *Sea Trek*, the BBC's new underwater television series. Martha, who has spent months researching and filming the series, appears on screen wearing what could pass for a giant goldfish bowl. She has also written a book based on the series — taking her cue from her father who has produced three works of his own.

JON ASHWORTH

Cabotage rules OK for British truckers

Tom Walker

reports on a

proposal to open

Europe's road

haulage system to

more competition

KAREL Van Miert, the EC transport commissioner, argued yesterday that all European road haulage firms should have the right to unrestricted cabotage, allowing them to pick up and deliver goods within another country, from 1993.

He gave the example of a Dutch truck travelling from Rotterdam to Munich. At present, if there is no return consignment for Holland, the truck has to go back empty. Under the proposed new rules the truck could pick up a load in Munich and take it to Cologne before returning home.

Previously, most member states were worried that the cabotage principle would severely disrupt their domestic haulage markets, but an experimental scheme of cabotage quotas has proved the fears to be unfounded.

A spokesman for Britain's Road Haulage Association said although 15,000 permits had been granted throughout the EC, there had been a negligible effect on its business. "Quite honestly most foreign truckers are knackered by the time they get here and



Freedom fighter: Karel Van Miert, EC commissioner

just want to go home anyway," he said. They're not in the business of looking round for new loads to carry somewhere else in Britain.

But the new liberalisation could affect transit EC countries like Germany and France, and Mr Van Miert said there will be safeguards to the new rules. First, if a domestic market is severely disrupted by cabotage, the commission will be able to intervene. Second, if cabotage immediately becomes a threat in 1993, then the commission will construct a transitional period, in which cabotage will take no more than 5 per cent

of a domestic market in 1993, rising to complete freedom by 1998.

The RHA said the only problem after 1993 will be determining to what extent foreign trucks will have to respect British laws. While they will obviously have to conform to weight and speed limits, it is uncertain whether they will also have to be equipped with anti-splash and under-run guards, as British-registered trucks do.

Mr Van Miert's proposals will be considered by the European parliament before going before transport ministers next spring.

Ashdown finds double trouble

AS Labour and the Conservatives battle it out for support in the City, Paddy Ashdown, leader of the Liberal Democrats, has been quietly making some valuable connections of his own. Ashdown was at the West End offices of Fletcher King, the surveyor, yesterday, to meet various figures from the worlds of insurance, retailing and banking. But his day was nearly ruined when he discovered that the last remaining place at the table was to be taken by a certain David Mellor. Fortunately, it was not David Mellor, chief secretary to the Treasury, but David Mellor, of Julius Mellor, a company that supplies Marks and Spencer with bubble bath and soap. The meeting was strained. The two Mellors look exactly alike.

Call of the Bar

SIR Sydney Lipworth, chairman of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, may be

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

ready to return to his roots as a barrister. South African-born Sir Sydney, one of the pioneers of British life assurance, has been called to the Bar, a move which could lead on to a lucrative career in British law. He was called to the South African Bar in 1956 with Sir Mark Weinberg, whom he later joined at Abbey Life, and followed to Allied Dunbar. "He's an enormously hard worker," says Sir Mark, who is busy setting up J Rothschild Assurance and admits that it is all a lot more complicated than it was 20 years ago.

Dark illumination

THE low level of lighting in the Securities and Investments Board's boardroom posed a few problems yesterday for Sir David Walker, the SIB chairman. Sir David was due to announce, appro-

priately enough, that no more light is to be shed on the levels of commissions paid to investment salesmen. But, concerned for the eyesight of journalists present, he asked for the lights in the room to be



"No franchise? Think of the money we save."

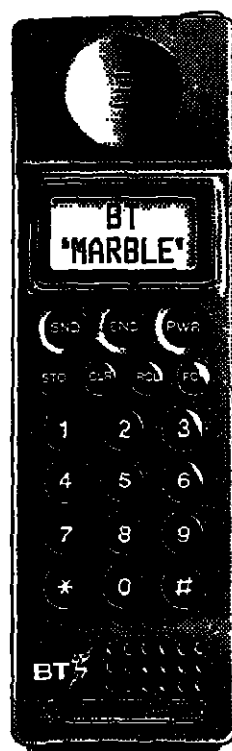
switched on first. Catherine Paviot, who joined SIB's press team from the Serious Fraud Office last month, opened a cupboard in search of the light switches, then put on the air conditioning by mistake. As Sir David summoned reinforcements, a colleague managed to switch on some side lights, allowing the meeting to proceed in only marginal gloom.

Milk teeth

DEALERS at Barings have been chuckling over the latest edition of *Baring Organisation and Friends* (BOF), a spoof in-house journal, which includes a refreshingly comic view of the annual "milk-round", in which stockbrokers and banks go in search of new employees. "As in previous years, we have been round the orphanages and redbrick universities for

Free flights to Paris.

(Are we losing our Marbles?)



Indeed, have we gone in-Seine?

Perhaps. Because although buying a BT Marble Cellphone connected to Cellnet will get you the best quality service in the UK, if you buy one before 31st

December it'll also get you 500 Air Miles, free. And that's enough to take you to Paris and back.

Become even more mobile by fitting a BT Executive Car-Kit and we'll throw in another 500 Air Miles.

Or in other words, another seat on the plane. After all, Paris is the romantic capital of Europe.

PHONE FREE ON 0800 222 626



*This offer is only available through BT Mobile and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer.

"Deutsche Bank
and France's
Crédit Agricole
have followed
TSB's lead by setting
up their own
insurance subsidiaries."

The Economist, October 1990

WE SEEM TO HAVE STARTED A TREND.

In 1967, we started what is now Britain's second largest supplier of unit-linked life and pension products.

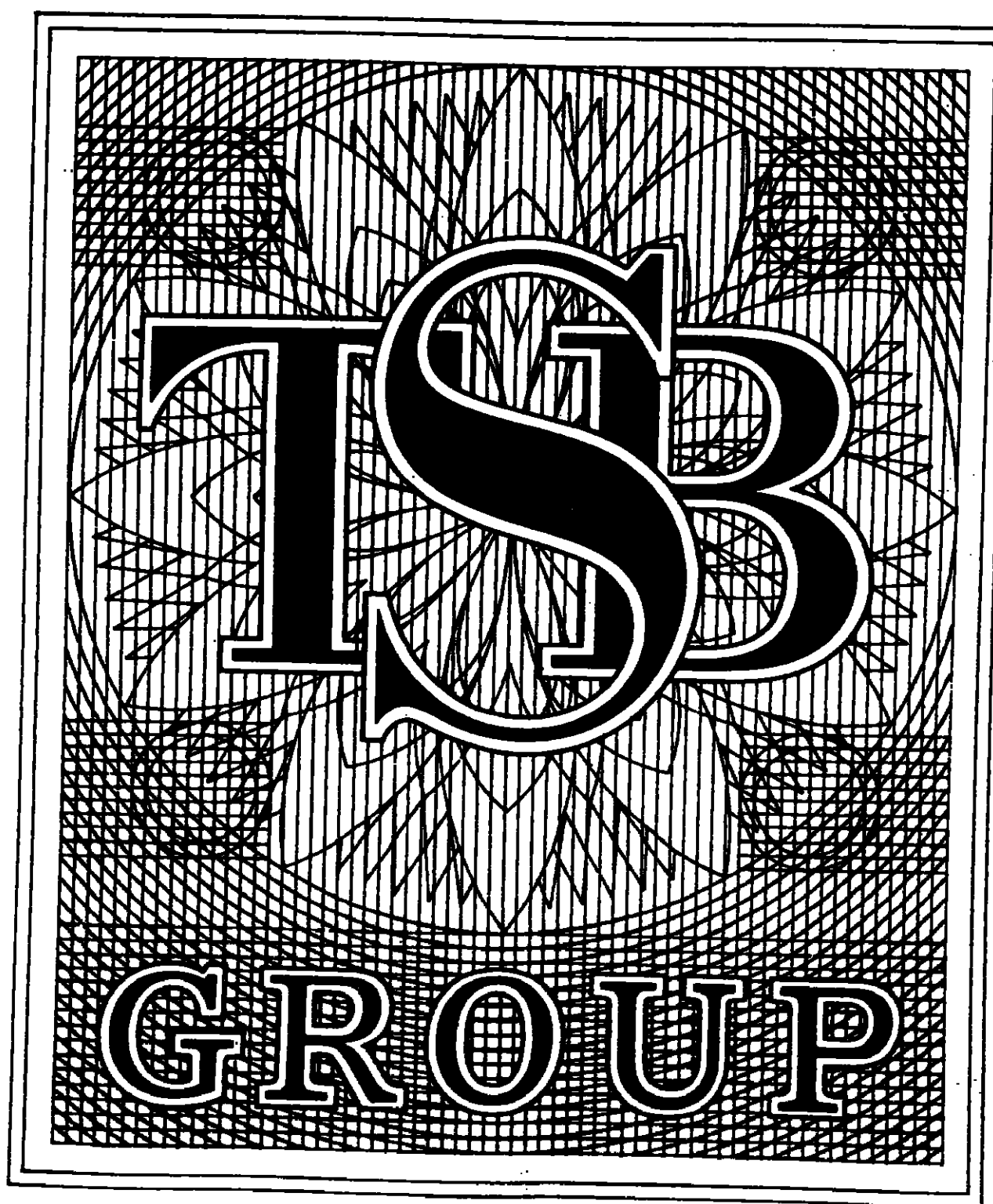
And TSB Group has become one of the UK's

largest financial service operations.

Our banking and insurance businesses are channelled in two streams behind our two strong brands: TSB and Hill Samuel.

We are developing both of them in their appropriate markets, and making sure they have the resources to succeed.

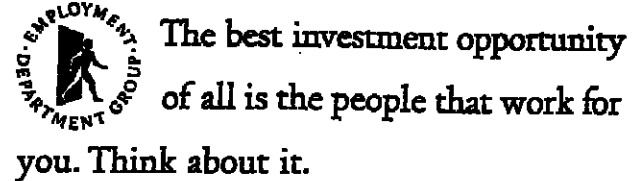
They already have a head start.



Banking and beyond.

TEMPUS

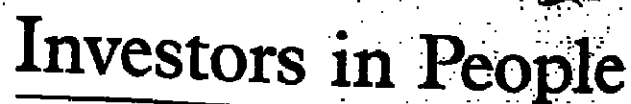
THAT THESE TWO



and development demonstrates the value
you place on those who work for you.

that sets a national standard for effective investment in people.

joined a most prestigious group
of Britain's leading companies.



If you want to find out more call now on
0800 444 246

Achieve it and you'll be seen to have

FAX 071-481 9313
071-782 7828

... ..

Britain's pension funds have reached a new high, but a decision

by the European Court is causing concern. Jon Ashworth reports

Battle to keep the pensioners and widows merry

Britain's pension fund managers have quite a task. Try managing £270 billion in funds for a start. Get it right, and a healthy pension is waiting in the wings. A couple of slips — a Polly Peck here, a Brent Walker there — and the task becomes all the more difficult.

Last year was the worst for British pension funds since 1974. Most were heavily invested in shares, and values plunged by an average of 10.5 per cent. About £33 billion went down the drain. Such losses, however, are only part of the trouble. Legislation and court rulings have left big question marks.

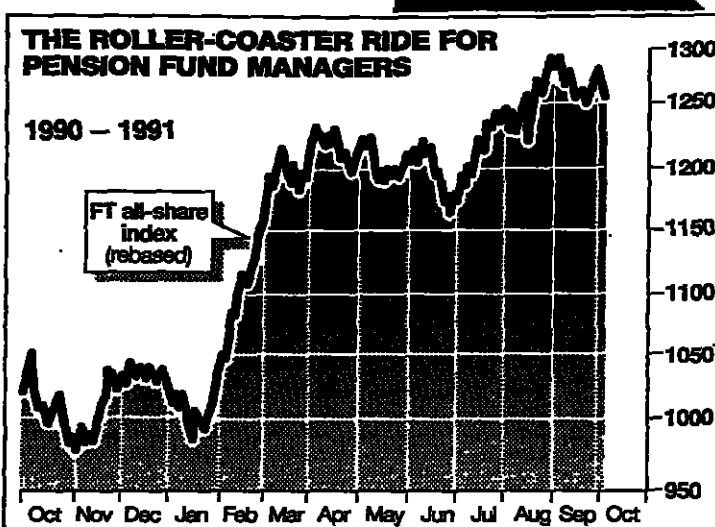
The case of *Barber v Guardian Royal Exchange* led to a ruling in the European Court of Justice on 17 May 1990 that pensions payable by a company scheme must be given to men and women on the same terms. Unfortunately, it was unclear whether the ruling applied from or before that date.

Another case, relating to the pension schemes of the collapsed Coloroll group, goes to the European Court next year and could end the confusion.

Then there are restrictions on self-investment. There is political controversy. Will the government take a lead on retirement ages for companies to follow?

In the longer term, last year's disastrous performance will do little harm. The average return of funds during the past ten years, according to Combined Actuarial Performance Services (Cape), was 15.4 per cent, well ahead of inflation. Funds have typically soared 23 per cent this year and overseas equities were the stars of the second quarter, according to the WM Company. American shares are recovering after a long, dull run. WM reports that even Australian shares, shunned by investment managers for years,

'Will the government take the lead on retirement ages for companies to follow?'



bounced back by 11.4 per cent in the second quarter of 1991.

Competition among fund management houses is fiercer than ever. In 1990, Mercury Asset Management was the biggest British pension fund manager, with more than £22 billion under management, said a survey by Hymans Robertson, the consulting actuary. Next came Phillips & Drew Fund Management, with £14 billion, and BZW Investment Management, with £12 billion.

Legal rulings and government action are quite another matter. Tony Newton, the social security secretary, is under pressure to guide British employers on retire-

ment ages. However, the decision to alter the state pension age is a sensitive one affecting millions of voters, and a consultation document on retirement is the best that can be hoped for as the general election approaches.

Under the Social Security Act 1990, pension funds will have to guarantee minimum annual increases — limited price indexation or LPI. Nobody knows the final cost of Barber and Coloroll to pension funds, so LPI has had to be put on ice.

More legislation is in the wings. The government has said self-investment will be limited to 5 per cent of a scheme's resources.

New regulations are unlikely before next year.

Another topical theme is pension rights on divorce. There is an argument that a woman divorced late in life with little time to build up a pension entitlement should receive a share of her former husband's pension.

Even the Church of England is facing controversy over its £2.4 billion fund. The Church Commissioners, as fund managers, have been attacked for investing in businesses with South African links. Although the commissioners do not invest directly in companies whose main business is armaments, gambling, alcohol, tobacco or newspapers, a balanced portfolio may make some overlap impossible to avoid.

There are increasing calls for pension funds to become more involved in the affairs of Britain's blue-chip companies. Seven out of ten shares in Britain are held by institutional investors. However, the National Association of Pension Funds says only one in five pension funds votes at company

meetings. One in four never votes.

Far from the City investment houses, the people who are supposed to gain — the pensioners — are at last getting a voice. The Occupational Pensions Advisory Service (Opas), set up as a charity in 1982, has received an official grant for the first time. Opas works with local Citizens' Advice Bureaux to help to put pensioners with queries in touch with trustees and administrators.

For the first time, there is a pensions ombudsman. Michael Platt took up the post in April and reserves himself for the trickiest cases, the ones Opas has failed to resolve. He is limited to company and personal pensions. State and public service pensions are not in his brief.

The pension scheme registry will be especially useful for employees who have changed jobs several times, leaving cash behind every time. Schemes had to sign up by the end of July, and once the registry is established it will be easier for pensioners to trace the amounts and claim their due.

Smile on the face of the survivor: Deborah Barrymore, the model used to market pensions on television for Scottish Widows pensions

The Coloroll of pension money

May 17, 1990 is the one date that pension specialists will never be allowed to forget. That was the day the European Court of Justice ruled in the case of *Barber v Guardian Royal Exchange*. The judgment has been indelibly stamped on the face of British — and, for that matter, European — pensions history, Jon Ashworth writes.

In a nutshell, the court decided that men and women should be able to draw pensions from the same age, not, as in Britain, at 65 and 60 respectively. Unfortunately, the court did not decide whether the judgment should apply only from May 1990, or benefit people who had retired earlier.

There are, however, many interpretations, most of them in the employee's favour. This is the wild card in the pensions pack.

Uncertainty over the cost to industry has marked up the working lives of trustees, employers, solicitors, accountants and fund managers throughout the United Kingdom.

Nobody is sure of the final cost of the back payments. The National Association of Pension Funds thinks that £27 billion is a fair figure. The Confederation of British Industry predicts £40 billion at the outside.

In July, the Coloroll case, involving the pension schemes of the Coloroll group of companies, which collapsed in 1990, was referred to the European Court. The ruling could clarify how far back the retrospection should go.

So much hinges on the outcome of the Coloroll case that the European Court is under intense pressure to deliver an early ruling. A hearing has been scheduled for early next year and a ruling may follow by the summer.

John Cunliffe, the pensions partner at McKenna & Co and the solicitor acting for the independent trustees of the Coloroll pension schemes, says proceedings

are being watched closely in Germany and The Netherlands, where similar cases are pending.

"The Germans are in a panic over Coloroll," Mr Cunliffe says. "It seems likely that the German and Dutch cases will follow the ruling." The Coloroll case and the German and Dutch cases, according to a review by McKenna, "give the European Court an unrivalled opportunity to rule on the retrospective effect of the Barber judgment, as well as on money purchase benefits and the position of trustees".

Setting 65 as the common retirement age would leave some British pension funds better-off. Lowering it to 60 for men as well as women would leave them deeply out of pocket.

Tim Johnson, the head of the employment law practice of Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte, sees no immediate end to the uncertainty surrounding retrospective payments. He thinks many employers are trying to pretend the problem does not exist.

Mr Johnson says: "There are a lot of ostrich-type firms. They can see there will be a problem, but there is a lot of doubt over the European judgment and they are just sitting on the fence. There is a surprising lack of activity among employers."

The question of which retirement age to choose remains high on the political agenda.

Last month, Labour produced a Charter for Pensioners that would give men the right to draw a full state pension at the age of 60 rather than 65.

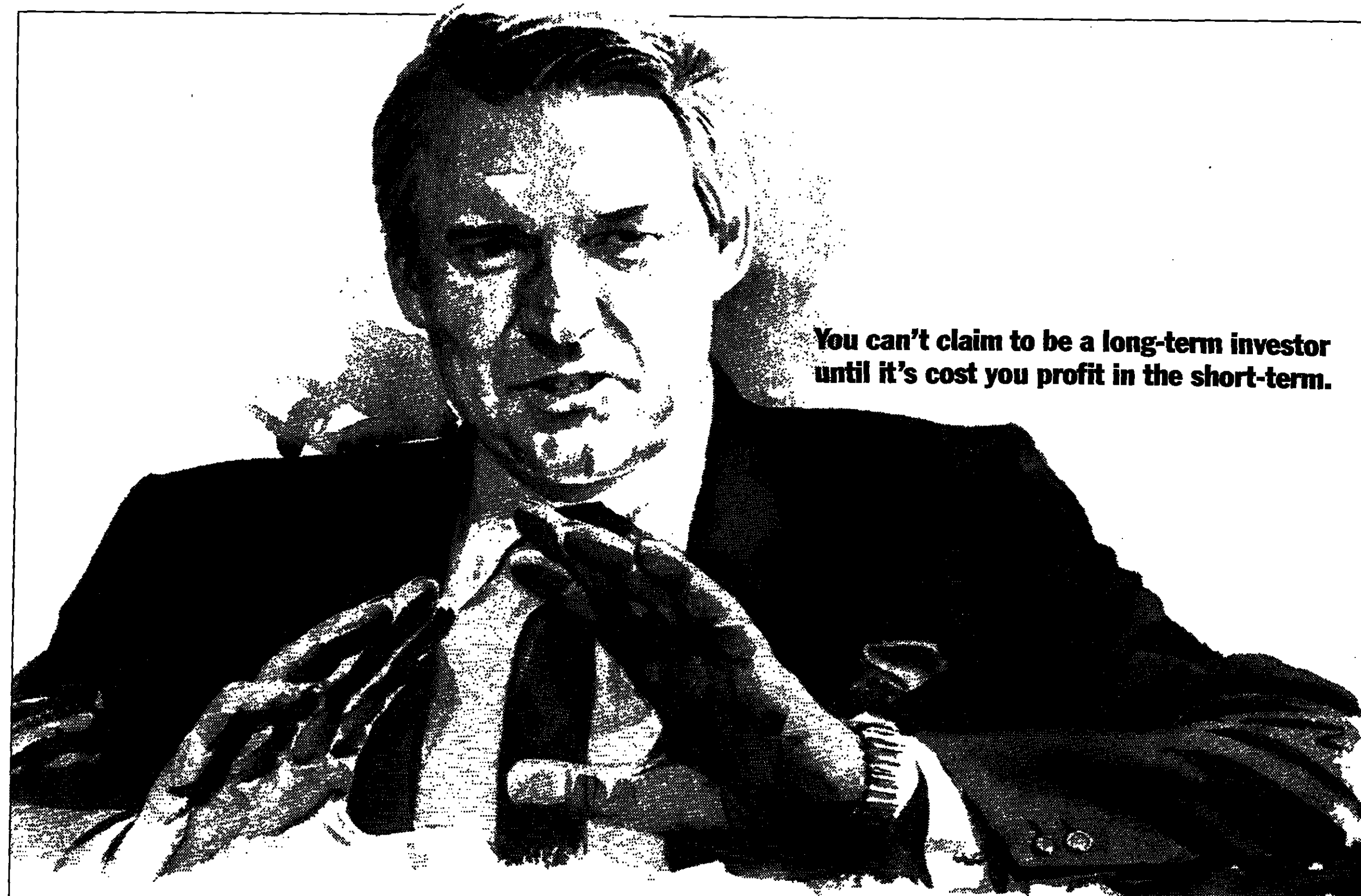
The Conservatives have been accused of favouring 63 or 65 as a retirement age for both sexes.

Tony Newton, the social security secretary, is due to publish a consultation paper on retirement any day now.

Many companies are trying to pre-empt whatever happens by raising the retirement age for women to 65 ahead of any ruling.



Tony Newton: due to act



You can't claim to be a long-term investor until it's cost you profit in the short-term.

Many institutional investors talk about the 'long-term' approach to investment. The question is, how many actually practice what they preach?

Not many, we suspect, judging by the number of fine companies that have fallen foul of hostile bids only to see themselves broken up, stripped of assets and their individuality lost forever.

Why does this happen? Sometimes the lure of

short-term profit overcomes the otherwise prudent attitude of institutional investors.

At PPM we resist this pressure not because we're sentimental but because in the long run we believe we will make a better return for our clients.

Since 1984 there have been 543 bids for companies in which we had stakes. We chose not to support the incumbent management in only 29

cases. Hardly a record of short-termism. But you might ask yourself another question.

If we didn't believe in the management of the companies in which we invest why would we put our clients' money into them in the first place?

Hugh Jenkins, Chief Executive, Prudential Portfolio Managers.

Prudential Portfolio Managers Limited, 1 Stephen Street, London W1P 2AP. Tel: 071 405 9222. Member of IMRO.

PRUDENTIAL
Portfolio Managers

Sitting pretty and ready for Euro business

Michael Elton talks to Jon Ashworth about the EC proposals that will open up Europe to Britain's pensions industry

Britain's money managers are to be given the go-ahead to manage pension funds throughout Europe, and they have Sir Leon Brittan to thank. Sir Leon, the European Community commissioner for competition policy, yesterday finalised a directive which will open Europe to pension fund managers in London and Edinburgh.

The move will be welcomed by Britain's pensions industry and by Michael Elton, the director-general of the National Association of Pension Funds (NAPF). Mr Elton and his team lobby long and hard on matters affecting the NAPF's 1,200 members and the £200 billion in funds that they manage. Their decisions affect more than six million employees.

Mr Elton and his European opposite numbers held their annual conference in Italy last week, and Sir Leon's proposals were much in mind. The directive calls for cross-border management and cross-border investment — two of Sir Leon's "three freedoms" — allowing British companies to advise pension funds in Denmark or France, for instance, and manage the funds on their behalf.

The proposals must be thrown open for consultation before they can pass into law. They may pave the way for the third "freedom",

allowing employees to take pooled pensions from country to country, but such a move is a long way off while tax and social security arrangements remain different.

Mr Elton supports the directive but hopes for some fine-tuning. "We are pretty free here to invest across borders, but the wording of the draft could leave it open to other governments to impose maximum investment limits on us," he says.

Sir Leon yesterday announced moves allowing UK fund managers to invest more freely abroad

At home, the issue of equal retirement ages for men and women remains a top priority. The NAPF is awaiting the consultative document on pensions from Tony Newton, the social security secretary, and hopes the government will give a lead on which age to choose.

Picking 60 as a common retirement age for men and women could cost the pensions industry between £40 billion and £50

billion. The NAPF supports equal retirement ages and thinks 65 is the best choice but suggests flexible arrangements. Mr Elton says: "We agree that men and women should now be earning equal pensions. We are in favour of future service equality. People should start earning equal pensions but we have grave difficulty with compulsory retrospective."

Mr Elton emphasises that a strong occupational pensions sector must be developed to ease pressure on the state scheme. He says: "Underlying everything we say and do is the demographic time bomb, a time bomb of nuclear proportions, with the increasing ageing population and a relatively smaller workforce to support it. Overshadowing everything is the issue of equalisation."

Mr Elton spends much of his time advising members and lobbying politicians and civil servants. He thinks the NAPF is being taken more seriously as a result. "I think our voice has been strengthened in the past year," he says.

The NAPF's membership of the European Federation for Retirement Provision gives it a say in Brussels. As greater European unification gathers pace, Mr Elton and his colleagues will see whether their negotiating powers retain their strength.



Cross-border opportunities: Michael Elton welcomes the European directive but is hoping for some fine-tuning to the proposals

THREE EXPERTS GIVE THEIR VIEWS ON HOW THE PENSION FUND MARKET WILL FARE DURING THE COMING 12 MONTHS

Tony Dye, investment director of Phillips & Drew Fund Management, says: "The past 12 months have provided some interesting opportunities for fund managers."

"Equity markets were initially depressed about oil prices after the invasion of Kuwait, then recovered as worst fears were seen to be unfounded and hopes of economic recovery in the United States and Britain were encouraged by falling interest rates."

"So the 'shock' for pension fund trustees of seeing a negative return of around 10 per cent on their investments reported for 1990 has soon been overcome."

"Many trustees are turning away, at least temporarily,



Tony Dye

from the more time-consuming approach to management required by specialised funds, and they are re-assessing the merits of the traditional, balanced approach."

"As to investment, equities look dear in most markets. Accordingly, we are running our lowest exposure to equities since the pre-crash summer of 1987. Our portfolio, therefore, are extremely diverse. Index-linked gilts, UK property, convertibles and Continental European bonds all offer good value relative to equities."

Chris Cheetham, director of investment strategy at Prudential Portfolio Managers (a member of IMRO), predicts: "Unlike a decade ago, the majority of pension funds now hold little or no commercial property and have a substantial amount of international equities. Until recently, investment managers



Chris Cheetham

also had an aversion to fixed interest investment — gilts, index-linked gilts and international bonds. Lately, however, the popularity of bonds has risen, perhaps reflecting

the longer-run impact of sterling's membership of the exchange rate mechanism (ERM). For PPM, the strategic decision is most important. Having determined strategy, we shift the asset mix of funds on a tactical basis."

"These shifts, usually modest in size, reflect nearer-term views (typically, 12 to 18 months) on the outlook for the various investment markets: the risk/return trade-off offered by the main asset classes is different from that which we expect in the long run, offering a greater return, less risk, or both."

"Globally, the economic background is benign. Inflation is expected to be low. However, real interest rates are still quite high, so bonds

are neither outstandingly cheap nor dear. International equities therefore offer solid, albeit unexciting, returns at low risk."

"We can be more positive about British markets, especially equities. The discipline of the ERM should ensure that progress on reducing wage inflation will continue. In relation to both gilts and other equity markets, British valuations are attractive."

Bill Baker, director of Henderson Pension Fund Management, says: "Since the sharp sell-off following the invasion of Kuwait, there has been a bull market, with the average pension fund returning more than 30 per cent



Bill Baker

"There have been few bids. Small companies have had only a limited recovery and, as with the bear market of 1990, shares that go wrong do so spectacularly. Consequently,

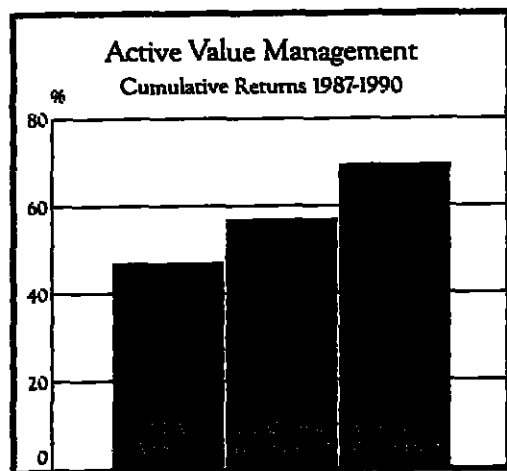
fund managers are keeping their heads down. But equity managers also tend to be optimistic. Accordingly, we have spent much of this year of recession trying to spot the recovery coming."

"Most of us began the year with high cash weightings and a defensive orientation to some sectors. The process of moving to a more balanced strategy is far from complete."

"Fund managers are building bond weightings and the progress of inflation is in line with the optimistic forecasts. We are all going to want to own more bonds. The case for sober, German-style inflation in Britain is not proven, however. So we continue to discount recovery cautiously. Timing is the key."

More than a match for the All Share.

For those who want more from their UK equity managers than just index matching, here's an active quantitative



And it has achieved consistent outperformance of the FT-A All Share Index, in fact 4% per annum, since it was

approach from Hill Samuel Investment

launched 4 years ago.

Management Ltd that has clearly outperformed.

If you would like to know more about

It's called Active Value Management

Active Value Management please call

(AVM for short).

Simon Vanstone on 071-638 1774 or write

AVM is based on 6 years' ongoing research to him at the address below.

by our dedicated, quantitative unit.



*Top Quartile of the WM Company Universe.

Hill Samuel Investment Management Ltd.,
45 Beech Street, London EC2P 2LX.
A member of IMRO.

Past performance is no guarantee of future returns.

Funds fight for your cash

"LOOKING good for your money." "We don't follow standards. We set them." "Are you an Amicable Man?"

Sound familiar? It should. The life and pensions companies spend millions of pounds a year telling investors they are the best. Jon Ashworth writes. Standard Life, Prudential, Scottish Amicable, Legal & General and Norwich Union are all fighting for a place in your pocket.

More choice in saving for retirement is open to employees than ever before. Formerly choice was often between a company pension and a state-funded one. Not any more.

Private pension funds may be tiny next to such giants as Postal, but the amounts are growing fast. There are now nearly five million personal pensions in existence, far more than anyone expected when they were introduced in July 1988. Most people with personal pensions use them to contract out of the State Earnings-Related Pensions Scheme (Serps). However, even though most plans are shells into which state rebates are pooled, the amounts add up to £3 billion a year.

Scottish Widows found a formidable weapon in the actor Roger Moore's daughter, Deborah Barrymore, who is the glamorous "widow" in its television, newspaper and billboard advertising campaign.

To follow its "Amicable Man" series, Scottish Amicable asked its customers to send in amusing home video clips and strung them together. The result is a memorable advertising campaign that costs the group between £3 million and £4 million a year.

Standard Life, which found the theme of "setting standards", is not advertising at all at the moment — perhaps another tactic to keep it ahead of the competition. Meanwhile, offices such as Legal & General, with its distinctive umbrella, and Allied Dunbar, with its "health check" series, are keeping up the pressure.

Of the 22 million people in Britain who work, about half belong to occupational pensions schemes. Most of the others rely on the state scheme, but many school-leavers and graduates are buying personal pensions.

Company scheme members who wish to top up their payments can contribute to their companies' Additional Voluntary Contribution (AVC) schemes, although these tend to be conservative,

Wide choice is open to employees, in private and company schemes

or they can take out free-standing AVCs, which are run separately by life offices and offer more adventurous investment strategies.

For directors of small companies, there are Small Self-Administered Schemes (SSAS). Despite a rocky ride, they now have a lot to offer. Up to a quarter of such a fund

can be used for self-investment in the first two years, and half the fund thereafter.

As most of the holders of personal pension plans use them to channel money from the state scheme, now is the time to suggest they top them up with £30 or £40 a month from their own pockets.

By some estimates, workers

in their twenties should be investing 15 per cent of their annual salary towards their pension — £3,000 a year for somebody earning £20,000. Most of these people, however, would be reluctant to part with £60 a month.

A wide variety is open to employees, and plenty of life offices are happy to give advice. Getting the cash into the pot is one thing. After that, the pension fund managers must make the advertising match the promises.

"Our investment management philosophy is distinctive and consistent. We concentrate on long-term value with an emphasis on income and recovery. We are reluctant to invest in highly rated fashionable stocks... M&G manages or advises funds which, collectively, have over 5% of the equity in 204 companies. In addition, we manage individual holdings of over £10 million each in 91 large public companies. We believe strongly that, as an institutional investor, we should have a constructive dialogue with the management of companies in which we have a significant interest, and consequently we make a point of getting to know the people who run these companies. We take a long term view of performance and we are not deflected by short term considerations."

Distinctive and Consistent

Segregated pension funds under M&G's management have grown strongly in recent years and were valued in excess of £1.53 billion at the end of December 1990.

These funds have been attracted by M&G's philosophy of pension portfolio management, which is based on long term fundamental value and income growth. M&G has been managing segregated pension funds since 1974 and the long established investment team is committed to superior results.

For further details of M&G's pension fund management, for balanced or specialist UK equity funds, please contact Robert Hayes or Kate Cornish-Bowden.



M&G Investment Management Limited
Three Dials, Tower Hill
London EC3R 6DL
Telephone 071-638 4500
Member of IMRO

Past performance does not guarantee future growth. The price of shares and units and the income from them can go down as well as up. You may not get back the amount you invested.

SPORTS LETTERS

Changes must be thought out

From Mr Robin Stieber
Sir, What splendid news that Fifi is going to take action to curb the time-wasting back-pass. Smart Jones (Comment, October 11) need not be so pessimistic; of course, tacticians will try to negate the effect of the change, as they have done every time the laws have been changed since the offside law modification in 1925. They will not necessarily succeed.

This is a positive move, intended to produce free-flowing, entertaining football. Ignore the comments of Howard Wilkinson, who wholly misses the point of the reform. The present system enables teams to keep possession for minutes on end, without giving the other side the slightest chance to play. Wilkinson's idea of punting the ball far upfield will at least end possession every time to the opposition, which is what they need the spectators want. If that is the best that Leeds can come up with, the game must benefit.

The details of this reform must be right or Fifi will have another mess on their hands like the one they have made of the equally necessary sanctions against "professional" fouls. Two key points are that a goalkeeper handling the ball from outside the penalty area should concede a corner, and that back-passes inside the area, being made usually for genuine defensive reasons and not for time-wasting, should be exempt

from this penalty. The negative back-pass is a relatively modern device. I have just watched the film of the 1970 Cup Final, Chelsea v Leeds. In the entire two hours there were ten back-passes, against the 30-40 in an average 90 minutes nowadays.

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN STIEBER,
89 Langthorne Street, SW6.

From Mr K. A. Crowe
Sir, I read with concern (October 10) that Fifi is to ban back-passes to the goalkeeper and introduce professional referees for the 1994 World Cup.

Referees and linesmen are not as good as they used to be and changing the rules will not make them better. The standard of lining in the 1990 World Cup was appalling and manifested itself most noticeably in the application of the offside law, which, although now changed for the better, is being enforced as badly as before.

Jack Taylor awarded a penalty, against the host nation, in the opening minute of the 1974 World Cup final and was in complete control throughout. I suggest Fifi officials compare his exhibition of the art with that of the most recent incumbent and act accordingly.

Yours etc.,
KEITH A. CROWE,
12 Hartsdale Close,
The Spinneys,
Halesowen, West Midlands.

New body will send full team

From Mr Dave Bedford
Sir, Charles Thompson (October 10) need not be concerned that British athletics will only send medal chances to major championships, as this is a minority view.

Previous annual general meetings of athletics clubs have mandated national managing committees to send "all qualified athletes to major championships". This encourages athletes in the less fashionable events where the only reward is international representation. It also encourages coaches, administrators and club officials who believe that athletics is more than just gold medals (or big money).

Now we have a new British Athletics Federation it is opportune to reconfirm its commitment to sending full teams. I understand a motion to this effect will be placed on the order paper of the AGM in March by some of the clubs.

Yours sincerely,
DAVE BEDFORD
(Hon. Secretary, British Athletics Federation),
67 Theobald Street,
Borehamwood, Hertfordshire.

Rugby failings

From Mr E. E. Smith
Sir, Your otherwise exemplary report of the match between Wales and Australia (October 14) made no reference to the ill-mannered and unsporting behaviour of the Welsh supporters at Cardiff Arms Park. Such behaviour has blighted the game for some decades and sadly has started to spread to other international venues. It does their national game a disservice and counteracts all the benefits arising from an otherwise spectacular and most enjoyable tournament.

Yours faithfully,
ERNEST SMITH,
Red House,
90 Drif Road,
Clanfield, Hampshire.

From Mr N. A. Chadwick
Sir, I had the good fortune to be able to attend the opening match of the Rugby World Cup at Twickenham. Sadly, the experience was marred by the fact that at 2.25pm, a whole 35 minutes before the scheduled kick-off, I was unable to find a single programme on sale anywhere in the ground.

Not only must there have been great disappointment among the cohorts of fellow programme seekers, but more importantly, the Rugby Football Union must have left slip the opportunity for obtaining substantial extra revenue.

Yours faithfully,
NICK TOWERS,
Lamb House,
Church Street, W4.

From Mr A. J. M. Chadwick
Sir, Old school ties are somewhat out of fashion these days. However, I think Old Rugbyans should be sporting their ties proudly during this exciting month. Has any school besides Rugby given its name to such a worldwide sport?

Yours sincerely,
A. J. M. CHADWICK,
38 Argyle Road, W8.

Sports Letters may be sent by fax to 071-782 5046

Letters to the Editor, page 18

Viral infection denies Salman's champion chance to redeem reputation

Confident ring around Pipe

By MICHAEL SEELY

MARTIN Pipe had the unmistakable ring of confidence at Cheltenham yesterday when discussing the heavily-backed Tamarpon's chance of winning Saturday's Tote Cesarewitch at Newmarket.

"We worked really well this morning," said the record-breaking National Hunt trainer after landing a double with Sweet Glow and Arabian Sultan. "We have laid him out specially for the race since he won the Northernland Plate, as we didn't want to risk him on the firm ground. And Lester Piggott rang up to ask if he could ride him."

Amazingly, with 43 winners to his credit, the Wellington-based perfectionist is already ahead of last season's schedule when he established a personal record of 230 winners during the campaign. Ridden with consummate confidence by Peter Scudamore, Sweet Glow gave a faultless display of jumping before winning the Standard Life Handicap Hurdle by three lengths.

The champion jockey was also on board Arabian Sultan, who won his fifth race from as many starts when beating Generous Scot by two lengths in the Everyman Theatre Centenary Novices' Hurdle. The runner-up was going just as well as the eventual winner when blundering away his chance at the second flight from home.

Pipe reported that Morley Street's full brother, Granville Again, will be sent to Leopardstown on November 17 for the second round of the Sport of Kings Challenge.

Pipe and Scudamore had looked like having a third winner when Diamond Cut was still in front at the last flight in the British Beef Stakes. But, sympathetically handled by Morley Street's jockey, Jimmy Frost, Hidden Cove recovered from a slight mistake at the second-last to get up close home for a three-quarters of a length win.

Although Hidden Cove, a useful performer on the flat, has an obvious future at the winter game, Ian Balding has no immediate plans. But, talking about Paul Mellon's Sun Alliance Hurdle winner, Crystal Spirit, he said: "We are going to keep him to two-and-a-half



Far Senior, ridden by Anthony Tord, jumping clear at Cheltenham yesterday

miles or longer. He's going to Newbury then back to Cheltenham for the third round of the Sport of Kings Challenge."

By far the most exciting sight of an exhilarating afternoon's racing was that of Clever Folly defying top weight of 11st 12lb by four lengths to record his sixth victory from nine starts

this season for Gordon Richards in the Standard Life Handicap Chase.

Kim Bailey landed a first-and-last race double when Anthony Tord rode Far Senior to a 12-length win in the Lydney Novices' Chase and when Marcus Armitage brought a Lad Insane home to a comfortable victory

in the Dermot Daly Memorial Trophy.

The trainer said that Mr Frisk will not run in the Hennessy Gold Trophy, but will go to Ascot next week. The stable's runner in the first important long-distance handicap chase of the season, will be Docklands Express.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S FOUR MEETINGS

Redcar	3.10 (1m) 1. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 2. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 3. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 4. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 5. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 6. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 7. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 8. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 9. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 10. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 11. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 12. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 13. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 14. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 15. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 16. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 17. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 18. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 19. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 20. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 21. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 22. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 23. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 24. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 25. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 26. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 27. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 28. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 29. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 30. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 31. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 32. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 33. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 34. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 35. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 36. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 37. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 38. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 39. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 40. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 41. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 42. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 43. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 44. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 45. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 46. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 47. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 48. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 49. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 50. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 51. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 52. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 53. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 54. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 55. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 56. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 57. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 58. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 59. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 60. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 61. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 62. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 63. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 64. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 65. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 66. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 67. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 68. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 69. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 70. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 71. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 72. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 73. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 74. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 75. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 76. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 77. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 78. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 79. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 80. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 81. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 82. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 83. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 84. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 85. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 86. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 87. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 88. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 89. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 90. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 91. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 92. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 93. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 94. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 95. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 96. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 97. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 98. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 99. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 100. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 101. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 102. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 103. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 104. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 105. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 106. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 107. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 108. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 109. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 110. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 111. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 112. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 113. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 114. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 115. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 116. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 117. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 118. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 119. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 120. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 121. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 122. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 123. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 124. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 125. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 126. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 127. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 128. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 129. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 130. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 131. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 132. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 133. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 134. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 135. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 136. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 137. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 138. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 139. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 140. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 141. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 142. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 143. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 144. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 145. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 146. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 147. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 148. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 149. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 150. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 151. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 152. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 153. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 154. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 155. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 156. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 157. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 158. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 159. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 160. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 161. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 162. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 163. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 164. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 165. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 166. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 167. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 168. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 169. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 170. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 171. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 172. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 173. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 174. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 175. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 176. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 177. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 178. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 179. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 180. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 181. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 182. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 183. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 184. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 185. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 186. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 187. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 188. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 189. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 190. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 191. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 192. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 193. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 194. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 195. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 196. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 197. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 198. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 199. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 200. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 201. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 202. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 203. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 204. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 205. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 206. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 207. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 208. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 209. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 210. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 211. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 212. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 213. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 214. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 215. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 216. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 217. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 218. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 219. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 220. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 221. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 222. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 223. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 224. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 225. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 226. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 227. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 228. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 229. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 230. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 231. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 232. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 233. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 234. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 235. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 236. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 237. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 238. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 239. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 240. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 241. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 242. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 243. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 244. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 245. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 246. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 247. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 248. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 249. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 250. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 251. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 252. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 253. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 254. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 255. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 256. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 257. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 258. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 259. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 260. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 261. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 262. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 263. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 264. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 265. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 266. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 267. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 268. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 269. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 270. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 271. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 272. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 273. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 274. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 275. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 276. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 277. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 278. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 279. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 280. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 281. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 282. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 283. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 284. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 285. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 286. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 287. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 288. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 289. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 290. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 291. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 292. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 293. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 294. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 295. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 296. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 297. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 298. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 299. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 300. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 301. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 302. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 303. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 304. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 305. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 306. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 307. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 308. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 309. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 310. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 311. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 312. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 313. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 314. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 315. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 316. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 317. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 318. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 319. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 320. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 321. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 322. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 323. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 324. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 325. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 326. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 327. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 328. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 329. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 330. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 331. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 332. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 333. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 334. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 335. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 336. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 337. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 338. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 339. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 340. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 341. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 342. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 343. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 344. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 345. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 346. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 347. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 348. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 349. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 350. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 351. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 352. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 353. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 354. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 355. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 356. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 357. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 358. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 359. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 360. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 361. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 362. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 363. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 364. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 365. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 366. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 367. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 368. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 369. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 370. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 371. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 372. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 373. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 374. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 375. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 376. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 377. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 378. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 379. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 380. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 381. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 382. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 383. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 384. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 385. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 386. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 387. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 388. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 389. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 390. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 391. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 392. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 393. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 394. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 395. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 396. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 397. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 398. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 399. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 400. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 401. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 402. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 403. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 404. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 405. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 406. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 407. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 408. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 409. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 410. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 411. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 412. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 413. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 414. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 415. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 416. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 417. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 418. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 419. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 420. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 421. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 422. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 423. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 424. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 425. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 426. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 427. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 428. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 429. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 430. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 431. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 432. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 433. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 434. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 435. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 436. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 437. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 438. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 439. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 440. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 441. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 442. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 443. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 444. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 445. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 446. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 447. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 448. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 449. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 450. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 451. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 452. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 453. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 454. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 455. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 456. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 457. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 458. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 459. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 460. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 461. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 462. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 463. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 464. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 465. Redstart (P. Eddery, 6-1); 466. Redstart (P
---------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Penalty by Hagi damages Scots' hopes of qualifying

WAYS.....£58.4
uses and Commission
September 1991 - 30.6%
dividends subject to recharging.
0800 400 100-34

